TORONTO metro®

Wednesday, August 4, 2010
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2010 Ram 1500 Crew Cab Laramie shown‡

2010 RAM 1500 QUAD CAB SXT 4X4

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2010 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT shown‡

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2010 Dodge Journey R/T shown‡

2010 DODGE JOURNEY SE CANADA VALUE PACKAGE

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+Your local retailer may charge additional fees for administration/pre-delivery that can range from $0 to $1,098 and anti-theft/safety products that can range from $0 to $1,298. Charges may vary by retailer.

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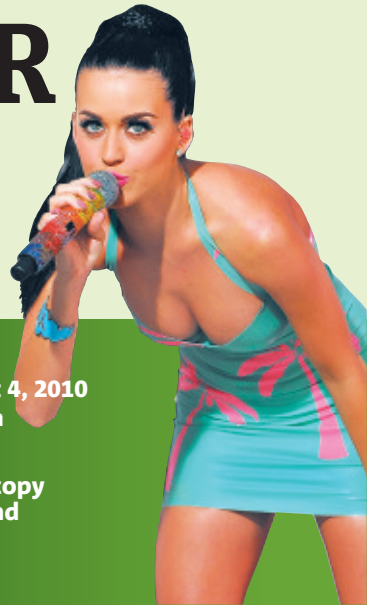
SIRIUS SATELLITE RADIO

Wise customers read the fine print: ♦, •, *, **, †, ±, ‡, § Canada's Hottest Long Weekend of the Year Event offers apply to retail deliveries of selected new and unused models purchased between August 4, 2010 and August 7, 2010 from participating retailers. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Offers subject to change and may be extended without notice. See participating retailer for complete details and conditions. ♦No Purchase Necessary. Contest opens August 4, 2010 @ 9:00 AM ET and closes 11:59 PM ET August 7, 2010. One (1) Grand Prize available to be won, consisting of a cheque for the total purchase price of the Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge or Ram vehicle purchased. Random Draw will be held on August 17, 2010 in Oakville, ON. Must be a resident of Ontario, of the age of majority with a valid Ontario driver's licence. Odds of winning depend on the total number of eligible entries received. Cannot answer contest mechanical skill testing question completed. Limit of one (1) entry per person. For complete contest rules, including no purchase means of entry go to: https://forms.chryslercanada.ca/summerholidaywin. •4.25, 3.99 Purchase Price applies to 2010 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT (244) 4x4/8ft only and includes $1,000 Customer Cash. Purchase Price applies to 2010 Dodge Journey SE Canada Value Package (223) with a Purchase Price of $25,999 and includes $8,250 Customer Cash. Purchase Price applies to 2010 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT (244) 4x4/8ft only and includes $1,000 Customer Cash, $500 Dealer Performance Cash and $1,250 Customer Cash. Purchase Price applies to 2010 Dodge Grand Caravan Canada Value Package (CVP) with a Purchase Price of $19,999 and includes $8,000 Customer Cash. Purchase Price applies to 2010 Dodge Journey SE Canada Value Package (223) with a Purchase Price of $25,999 and includes $8,250 Customer Cash. $500 Dealer Performance Cash and $1,250 Customer Cash. Examples: 2010 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (244) 4x4/8ft 2010 Dodge Journey SE Canada Value Package (223) with a Purchase Price of $25,999 $8,250 Customer Cash, $500 Dealer Performance Cash, $1,250 Customer Cash, 2010 Dodge Grand Caravan Canada Value Package (CVP) with a Purchase Price of $19,999 and $8,000 Customer Cash. †0% Purchase Financing for 36 months available to qualified customers on approved credit through Royal Bank of Canada. Scotiabank, TD Financing Services and GMAC on most 2010 Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge and Ram models, except Challenger, Caliber Canada Value Package and SRT. Grand Caravan Canada Value Package and Cargo Van, Sprinter and Ram Chassis Cab. Examples: 2010 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (244) 4x4/8ft 2010 Dodge Journey SE Canada Value Package (223) with a Purchase Price of $25,999 $8,250 Customer Cash, $500 Dealer Performance Cash, $1,250 Customer Cash, 2010 Dodge Grand Caravan Canada Value Package (CVP) with a Purchase Price of $19,999 and $8,000 Customer Cash. ‡Based on weekly payment based on financing a 2010 Dodge Grand Caravan SE with Stow 'N Go® at 2.75% Variable Prime Rate over 84 months on approved credit through TD Financing Services or Royal Bank of Canada, compared to financing a 2010 Grand Caravan Canada Value Package at an average standard bank rate over 84 months. $34 2010 Ram 1500 Crew Cab Laramie/ 2010 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT/ 2010 Dodge Journey R/T shown have a higher price than the 2010 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4/ 2010 Dodge Grand Caravan Canada Value Package/ 2010 Dodge Journey SE Canada Value Package advertised. See your retailer or go to www.dodge.ca for complete details. ^Based on calendar year market share gain. ~Based on January through December 2009 R.L. Polk sales total registrations. ~SIRIUS and the dog logo are registered trademarks of SIRIUS Satellite Radio Inc. ~Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC.

Tonight's Jackpot
$7,000,000
estimated
LOTTO 649

THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE BUDDIES
NEW LIFE FOR BUDDY COP GENRE? {page 17}

STELLAR
PERRY BUYS A TRIP TO SPACE
METRO DISH {page 21}



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The worst may be yet to come

Pakistan government struggling to cope with scale of flood disaster amidst war and economic troubles Canada will send $2 million in humanitarian assistance

MOHAMMAD SAJJAD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Afghan refugee children wait to get relief in Peshawar, Pakistan, yesterday. Relief work has been hampered by submerged roads, washed-out bridges and downed communication lines, and survivors have complained about government inaction.

Floodwaters surged into Pakistan's heartland and swallowed dozens of villages yesterday, adding to a week of destruction that has already ravaged the mountainous northwest and killed 1,500 people.

The rush of muddy water over river banks in Punjab threatened to destroy vast stretches of crops that make the province Pakistan's breadbasket, prompting the UN to warn that an estimated 1.8 million people will need to be fed in the coming weeks.

Adding to the misery, fresh rains in the northwest threatened to overwhelm a major dam and unleash a new deluge, while rescue workers struggled to deliver aid to some 3.2 million people affected by the floods. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Special feature

Focus on continuing education

How does distance education work? Does online learning fit your personality? Tips for upgrading your business skills, and more {pages 32-37}

Does he mean it this time?

Report says quarterback Brett Favre set to retire, again {page 38}

New driving law challenged

Critic says law restricts based on age, not experience {page 6}

Ready to Torch the iPhone?

Research In Motion unveils the newest BlackBerry {page 13}

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BMX. Weather

▶ Daniel Riscado, 15, does a trick on his BMX bicycle yesterday at a bike park while taking in the warm weather in Toronto.

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Off he goes, into the wild blue yonder

Stinging downside to warm weather

The type of wasps that terrorize picnic tables and patios usually appear at the beginning of August ◐ Wasp presence tends to peak between mid-August and the Labour Day weekend

The warm weather we love may come back to bite us. Wait, make that sting us.

"My guess is that this year will be a very good year for wasps," said John Huber, a researcher with Natural Resources Canada.

He means good for the wasps — not for jam- and juice-loving picnickers.

The recipe for wasp dominance started in the winter.

More queen wasps die off during harsh winters or chaotic, warm-to-cold springs. During warmer winters and short, drier springs, a larger number of queens survive. That means more are ready and able to establish nests.

Nice springs also mean good food news for wasps. With more flowers in bloom and other insects abounding, worker wasps have more to feed their young.

The result? Even more of them.

But we can't blame it all on the bugs. Human behaviour is influenced by weather, too.

"One mosquito is bad enough for most people. They don't care whether it's a million or two million or 10 million. It's just bad news."
JOHN HUBER, NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA

Brighter skies make for better picnics. The more people bring their lunch to parks and lawns, the more people there are to notice and complain about the wasps.

Bug haters might be comforted to know that warm winters and dry springs can spell trouble for mosquitoes.

Mosquitoes emerge from standing water left over from melted snow or rain. Toronto saw less than 50 per cent of its annual average snowfall this year and February was pretty much the end of our winter. Most of the spring, with the exception of June, was unusually dry, and the April to July period has been 3 C warmer than usual.

"That's very bad for any kind of biting fly," Huber said.

Huber suspects mosquito populations will stay low this season. Still, he said it's easy to guess what bugs may do but impossible to predict their behaviour with any certainty.

And the bottom line is biters and buzzers are going to be around no matter what.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

1 news

News on the move

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Allan Small tells investors why the safest bet isn't always the best bet at metronews.ca/investing

Man who made splash with statues revealed

Artist says process of picking balancing stones is calming, helped him deal with hard period in his life

The mysterious appearance of two dozen precariously balanced rock sculptures in a Toronto river was revealed yesterday to be the work of an artist simply looking to clear his head on a Sunday afternoon.

The spectacle made news in the city when the sculptures seemingly appeared out of nowhere over the long weekend. Onlookers at the Humber River applauded Peter Riedel yesterday when he made a reluctant appearance at the site.

The sculptures, Riedel said, took about four hours to create from flat rock he found in a shallow part of the river.

"I come, I do my thing, and I leave. I don't leave any signature, so to speak," Riedel said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Balancing act

- Peter Riedel said he washes off algae and other slime and grinds down the flat part of the stone to help it balance.
- The rocks are holding up on their own, balancing on thin edges, with some large slabs holding steady on tiny stones.
- The sculptures usually remain intact for about three days before they get knocked over by wind or vibrations, Riedel said

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DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ A crowd of people gather on the bank of the Humber River yesterday to look at balancing rock statues created by artist Peter Riedel.

Metric taking to stage for free show

Canadian rock band Metric will play a free concert outside Union Station tonight.

Samsung Mobile announced the show yesterday without naming the band, but a source within the band's camp confirmed Metric was it.

The event goes down at 7 p.m. in Union Square Plaza. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Live with Regis and ... Ashley?

Toronto's Ashley Greco of Z103.5 is one of 100 nominees taking part in the Regis and Kelly Women of Radio Co-Host for a Day search.

The top 10 finalists will be announced live on Regis and Kelly Monday.

Visit facebook.com/LIVEwithRegisandKelly.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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▶ Ashley Greco

Union blasts closure of truck stations

A union leader says the government is risking the safety of motorists by shutting down truck inspection centres on busy southern Ontario highways.

Warren (Smokey) Thomas of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union said the province is shutting down the safety stations in Fort Erie, Winona and Sarnia North.

He said ministry employees were told of the closures last week in a memo that said it was part of the plan to downsize the public service to slay Ontario's massive deficit.

Thomas said closing the Fort Erie station close to the Canada-U.S. border is reckless and will allow trucks entering Canada to use back roads and highways to avoid inspection.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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HWY: 5.7 L/100 km – 50 mpg CITY: 7.5 L/100 km – 38 mpg†

HIGHEST POSSIBLE U.S. GOVERNMENT CRASH SAFETY RATING†

$700 GM CARD MAX. REDEMPTION ALLOWANCE†

LS Sport with OnStar shown††

LT model with Team Canada Edition Package shown††

2010 CHEVROLET COBALT XFE

MSRP $17,069

EMPLOYEE PRICING **$11,991***

PLUS **0%** PURCHASE FINANCING‡ FOR **60** MONTHS

INCLUDES FREIGHT, PDI, FEES & $4,300 CASH CREDIT♦

HWY: 5.4 L/100 km – 52 mpg CITY: 8.0 L/100 km – 35 mpg†

$1,500 GM CARD MAX. REDEMPTION ALLOWANCE†

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2010 CHEVROLET MALIBU LS

MSRP $25,489

EMPLOYEE PRICING **$23,214***

PLUS **0%** PURCHASE FINANCING‡ FOR **60** MONTHS

INCLUDES FREIGHT, PDI, FEES & $500 CASH CREDIT♦

HWY: 5.7 L/100 km – 50 mpg CITY: 7.5 L/100 km – 38 mpg†

HIGHEST POSSIBLE U.S. GOVERNMENT CRASH SAFETY RATING†

$1,500 GM CARD MAX. REDEMPTION ALLOWANCE†

LT Platinum Edition model shown††

2010 CHEVROLET IMPALA LS

MSRP $28,814

EMPLOYEE PRICING **$25,246***

PLUS **0%** PURCHASE FINANCING‡ FOR **60** MONTHS

INCLUDES FREIGHT, PDI, FEES & $1,000 CASH CREDIT♦

HWY: 6.7 L/100 km – 42 mpg CITY: 10.8 L/100 km – 26 mpg†

$2,000 GM CARD MAX. REDEMPTION ALLOWANCE†

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New law faces constitutional challenge

Kevin Wiener says legislation is a form of age discrimination He plans to file his challenge today

Kevin Wiener has a sobering message for the Ontario government — he thinks the new booze ban for young drivers is unconstitutional.

The 20-year-old Toronto resident is filing an application in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice challenging the law that came into effect Sunday.

Wiener says the law restricts based on age, instead of experience.

"I believe that it's experience that determines whether you can possibly drive after you have a drink with dinner, not your age," he said.

The law prohibits drivers younger than 22 from having any trace of alcohol in their system when operating a motor vehicle.

RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Kevin Wiener

Since the new rule came into effect Sunday, five people have been issued 24-hour driving suspensions by the Ontario Provincial Police.

However, Wiener said it's not fair that new drivers who are older do not face the same restrictions as young drivers — and points out that some younger drivers may have more experience on the road.

"While it's true that all young drivers are inexperienced, not all inexperienced drivers are young," he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

33% According to MADD Canada, while drivers aged 16 to 24 make up just 13 per cent of the population, they represent 33 per cent of deaths caused by drunk driving.

Mississauga. Inquiry

▶ A media throng greets Mayor Hazel McCallion as she arrives to give testimony at the Mississauga inquiry.

FRED LOEK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

McCallion seeks more for legal costs

Just days after an outspoken Mississauga councillor demanded the mayor's son pay his own lawyers' bills, Mayor Hazel McCallion is asking for an additional $250,000 for her legal expenses for a judicial inquiry.

Evidence obtained unlawfully; charges against cops thrown out

Charges

▶ Rick McIntosh, once head of the Toronto police union, and William McCormack Jr., son of former police chief William McCormack Sr., were charged in May 2004 with breach of trust and obstructing justice offences for allegedly taking bribes from nightclub owners in the Entertainment District.

Defence lawyers slammed Toronto police internal investigators yesterday after the Crown withdrew the remaining criminal charges against two former high-profile police officers.

Prosecutor Alex Hrybinsky told Superior Court there was no reasonable prospect of convicting William McCormack Jr. or Rick McIntosh because "crucial" wiretap evidence was unlawfully obtained.

When investigators filed an affidavit to obtain wiretap authorizations more than six years ago, they described the source of their information as a confidential informant to protect the identity of their police agent, Hrybinsky said.

It was therefore "inevitable" defence lawyers would have successfully challenged the validity of the authorizations.

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PRESTO, here's a new controversy

COLIN MCCONNELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Transportation Minister Kathleen Wynne shows off the PRESTO card at the Oakville GO station.

NDP asks auditor general to look into new transit smart card system

An Ontario watchdog is being asked to look into a government contract involving a new fare system for public transit in the GTA.

The New Democrats are asking auditor general Jim McCarter to investigate the government's $250-million contract with Accenture to develop and implement the so-called PRESTO system.

NDP critic Cheri DiNovo said the implementation of the smart card system has been delayed and is over budget. She said the TTC chairman has also expressed concern the PRESTO fare system may be outdated because other cities are shifting to systems that use debit and credit cards.

DiNovo said she wants McCarter to look into the full financial liabilities of the contract, and whether it will bind the government to future payments.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Underway

- The smart card system is already being rolled out to help riders transfer between transit systems in the Greater Toronto Area.
- But the TTC is spending more than $1 million to study a separate system that allows commuters to use debit and credit cards.
- Transportation Minister Kathleen Wynne has blasted TTC managers for considering a new fare system and called the study a complete waste of money.

Lawyer says Omar Khadr's war crimes trial could be illegal. Scan the code for the story.

Weekend trip ends in hospital

A Toronto man is in hospital with severe head injuries after being assaulted at a white-water rafting resort northwest of Ottawa on the weekend.

Provincial police say they responded to a call early Sunday morning at Wilderness Tours in Beachburg, Ont., where they found an unconscious man.

The 25-year-old victim was rushed to the Ottawa Hospital. Police say a 28-year-old London, Ont., man has been arrested and charged. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Less crime reported, so more jails needed?

▶ Stockwell Day, president of the Treasury Board, has opposition critics scratching their heads over his call for more jails in Canada.

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SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stockwell Day said the government will push ahead with its tough-on-crime agenda Tories looking at more mandatory sentences to take discretion away from judges

Opposition critics are scratching their heads over Stockwell Day's claim that Canada needs more prisons in part because many crimes go unreported.

Day, president of the Treasury Board, was asked yesterday why the Conservative government intends to spend billions of dollars on expanding prisons at a time of falling crime.

"People simply aren't reporting the same way they used to," he responded. "I'm saying one statistic of many that concerns us is the amount of crimes that go unreported. Those numbers are alarming and it shows that we can't take a liberal view to crime."

Day added the government's tough-on-crime agenda, including longer jail sentences, may result in "an uptick in incarceration."

The minister didn't provide evidence of an increase in unreported crimes, or a description of what types of crime go unreported, but said his office would follow up.

"You need prisons to lock up people who are not being charged? Unless you are suggesting ... rounding up everybody who looks suspicious, it makes no sense."
MARK HOLLAND, LIBERAL MP

A spokesperson for the justice minister said Day was referring to the General Social Survey conducted by Statistics Canada that asks individuals if they have been victims of crimes and if they reported the incidents to police.

Results of the 2009 survey conducted every five years will not be published until September, but the 2004 report does show a slight decrease, to 34 per cent from 37 per cent, of reported crimes.

Statistics Canada's latest compilation of crime reported to police, issued last month, shows overall crime dropped by seven per cent in 2007, continuing a downward trend since the rate peaked in 1991. The report found a decline in homicides, attempted murders, sexual assaults and robberies.

Liberal MP Mark Holland accused the government of trying to justify a bad policy with non-existent statistics. If anything, he said, reporting of sexual crime — which is historically under-reported — has increased over the years as the stigma has lessened.

But even if the minister is correct, Holland wondered how that would result in the need for more prison spaces.

New Democrat MP Don Davies said the government is again choosing ideology over the facts.

"Crime rates have been dropping steadily and consistently across categories for decades," he said. "So, faced with those statistics, they turn to unreported crimes. Why in 2010 would you be less likely to report a crime than in 1980 or 1990?"

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Long-form census may be scrapped

The Conservative government says it won't compromise and keep the long-form census mandatory and may actually consider scrapping it altogether.

Treasury Board president Stockwell Day said some European countries have found other ways of collecting data, which Statistics Canada compiles by compelling co-operation under threat of fine or jail.

"We've also looked at the fact that with the high degree of sophistication and integration of computerization and data these days, do you need to go through that whole process at all?" he said at a news conference yesterday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Complaints

- The government has been inundated with complaints and criticism on the issue after announcing in June it would scrap the mandatory, 40-page long-form census, which goes to 20 per cent of households.

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ALEXANDER ZEMLIANICHENKO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Margarita Sholokhova, whose house was destroyed in last week's fire in the village of Kadanok, 150 kilometres southeast of Moscow, is seen with her sons.

Wildfires out of control

Not enough firefighters: Russian emergency chief ◐ 246 fires burning

Some of the devastating wildfires sweeping western Russia are out of control, Russia's emergency chief said yesterday.

The blazes, coming after weeks of record-breaking heat and practically no rainfall, have killed 40 people and destroyed nearly 2,000 residences.

The fires also leaped into a military base near Moscow, destroying the headquarters building and 13 buildings containing unspecified aviation equipment, the federal Investigative Committee said.

Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said he would personally supervise the reconstruction of fire-ravaged homes via video cameras to be installed and would broadcast the images to the government website. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Mosque OK'd near 9-11 site

A city commission denied landmark status to a building near the World Trade Center site yesterday, freeing a group to convert the property into an Islamic community centre and mosque, drawing national opposition.

The Landmarks Preservation Commission voted 9-0, saying the 152-year-old building blocks from the site of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks wasn't distinctive enough to meet landmark criteria.

National and New York politicians have said it disrespects the memory of those killed in the 2001 attacks carried out by adherents of radical Islam. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Insensitive

▶ The Anti-Defamation League's national director, Abraham Foxman, said the proposals fail to address the crux of opponents' criticism that erecting the mosque near Ground Zero is insensitive to 9-11 victims' families.

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Workplace shooting kills 9 in Connecticut

Hartford Distributors employee goes on killing spree after being asked to resign Gunman shoots himself

JESSICA HILL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Workers and family of workers from Hartford Distributors gather yesterday.

A warehouse driver who was asked to resign his job at a beer distributor went on a shooting rampage yesterday morning that left nine people dead, including himself, and others wounded, company and state officials said.

Authorities were notifying victims' relatives before confirming the number of deaths, state police Lt. J. Paul Vance said.

The driver had worked at the distributor for a couple years and had been called in for a disciplinary hearing, said John Hollis of the Connecticut Teamsters labour union, who was with company officials at the scene of the shooting.

Hollis would not say why the driver was being disciplined.

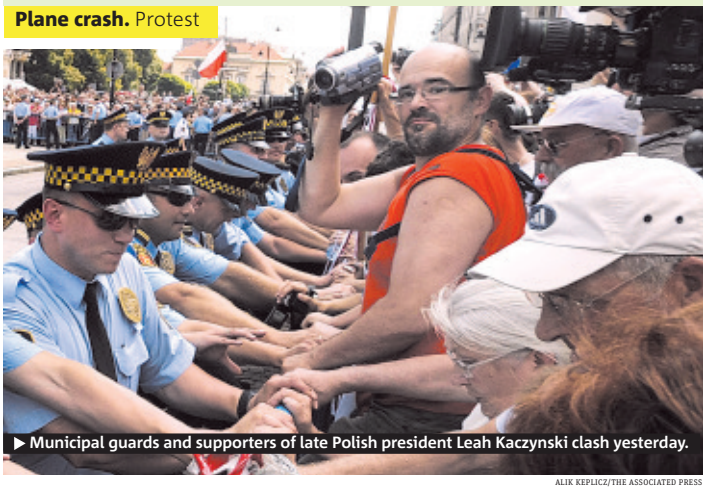
About 50 to 70 people were in the warehouse during a shift change when the gunman opened fire around 7 a.m., said Brett Hollander, the director of marketing at Hartford Distributors. Adding to the chaos was a fire at the warehouse, about 16 kilometres east of Hartford, that as put out.

Hollander, whose family owns the distributor, said he did not know the driver well.

Among the victims was Hollander's cousin, a vice-president at the company who was shot in the arm and the face. Hollander said he thought his cousin would be OK.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Plane crash. Protest



▶ Municipal guards and supporters of late Polish president Leah Kaczynski clash yesterday.

ALIK KEPLICZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Protests in Poland to remember crash

Supporters of late Polish president Leah Kaczynski scuffle yesterday with municipal guards as authorities try to remove a cross dedicated to Kaczynski and other victims of the April 10 plane crash from in front of the presidential palace in Warsaw, Poland. Authorities decided not to move the cross after fierce protests by Roman Catholic groups and Kaczynski's supporters.

Happy birthday Obama

49 **The age U.S. President Barack Obama turns today.**

U.S. President Barack Obama is heading home to Chicago to celebrate his birthday today by having dinner with friends.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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News in brief

Obama signs new bill

WASHINGTON. U.S. President Barack Obama signed into law a bill to reduce the disparity between federal mandatory sentences for convictions for crack cocaine and the powder form of the illegal drug. The sentencing discrepancy has been a longtime irritant within the black community.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Battle ignites with Israel

ADEISSEH, LEBANON. Lebanese and Israeli troops exchanged fire yesterday in a fierce border battle that killed a senior Israeli officer, two Lebanese soldiers and a journalist — underlining how easily tensions can re-ignite along the frontier where Israel and Hezbollah fought a war four years ago.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Train derailed

AIRDRIE, ALTA. Nearly a dozen people were evacuated from a rural area north of a Calgary community as a precaution after a train carrying anhydrous ammonia derailed yesterday morning.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

10 killed in Iraq after blast

BAGHDAD. Iraqi officials say at least 10 people were killed and 30 wounded when an outdoor market was hit by a series of blasts in a city southeast of Baghdad yesterday. Police officials said car bombs were the cause. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Spare civilians, Taliban code says

New edict distributed 10 days ago NATO urges soldiers to avoid civilian casualties shortly after

An updated Taliban code of conduct urges fighters to avoid killing civilians and forbids them from seizing weapons and money, a directive aimed at winning hearts and minds of Afghans also being courted by international forces.

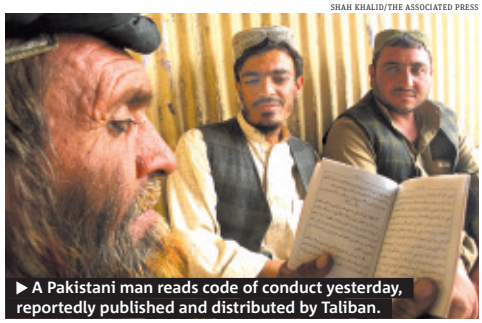
But the document declares that people working for international forces or the Afghan government are "supporters of the infidels" and can be killed. Taliban leader Mullah Mohammad Omar took a similar hard line in orders to insurgents that NATO forces said they intercepted in early June.

Mullah Omar urged fighters to kill anyone working with international forces or the Afghan government, including women, according to NATO.

The new code of conduct is an update to a similar set of directives released a year earlier that limited the use of suicide bombers and mandated that prisoners cannot be harmed or ransomed without the approval of a Taliban regional commander.

NATO and Afghan officials criticized last year's code as propaganda.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SHAH KHALID/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ A Pakistani man reads code of conduct yesterday, reportedly published and distributed by Taliban.

Brazen attacks

- A brazen daylight attack on Kandahar Airfield resulted in the deaths of between eight and 10 Taliban fighters yesterday. Military officials called the attempt amateurish and desperate.
- The one-hour assault occurred minutes after a pair of rockets were fired toward the sprawling base south of Kandahar city, which is the largest NATO installation in southern Afghanistan.
- Six Afghan private security guards were poisoned and fatally stabbed during a bank robbery in northern Afghanistan, police said.
- In the east, a NATO service member was killed yesterday during an insurgent attack.

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New BlackBerry model getting mixed reviews

Good enough to challenge iPhone 4? Comes just as RIM facing bans by several countries

Research In Motion officially unveiled its latest smartphone yesterday, a new touchscreen model with a slide-out keyboard designed to challenge Apple's iPhone, but analysts questioned whether the Torch is innovative enough to woo consumers.

The new BlackBerry will be released in the United States next week for $199 on a two-year contract, while Bell, Rogers and Telus all say they plan to offer it in Canada, with Rogers saying a release will take place "in the coming weeks."

The phone is packed with consumer-friendly features, including built-in links to social networks like Facebook, Twitter and MySpace, and has a slide-out QWERTY keyboard to appeal to users frustrated by typing on touchscreen keypads.

Analysts say yesterday's news is a significant step forward for the company. But Research in Motion wasn't able to go a step further than Apple and really "wow" with its announcement, said Ian Lee, MBA director at Carleton University's Sprott School of Business.

"When BlackBerry came out you thought it was magic, and it was magic, but Apple has raised the bar on the magic quotient."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Saudi shutdown

Saudi Arabia is ordering its mobile operators to halt BlackBerry services throughout the kingdom this week.

- **Tensions** There have been heightening tensions between Research in Motion and governments demanding greater access to data sent on the BlackBerrys.
- **UAE ban** The Saudi move comes just days after the neighbouring United Arab Emirates announced it was planning to shut down email, messaging and web browsing on BlackBerrys starting in October.

Brewing. Molson

▶ Molson also makes Coors Light and Carling.

BILL SIKES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beer sales going flat

Molson Coors Brewing Co. posted a 27 per cent increase in second-quarter net income yesterday, but worldwide beer volume fell 0.7 per cent as drinkers continued limiting their purchases.

Market moment

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Saputo increases dividends

Saputo Inc. gave its shareholders something to smile about yesterday at its annual meeting — a 10 per cent increase to the quarterly dividend.

The Montreal-based cheese, milk and snack foods producer said it will increase the quarterly dividend in September to 16 cents per share from 14.5 cents. THE CANADIAN PRESS

[1] To redeem TD Points for travel purchases charged to your Card that are not booked through the TD Travel Rewards Centre (the "Centre"), Cardholder must contact the Centre after the travel purchase has been posted to the Account and within 90 days from the transaction date of the travel purchase. The required TD Points will be redeemed from the TD Points balance available on the date TD Points are redeemed for the travel purchase, not the transaction date of the travel purchase. The amount that will be credited toward the travel purchase will be equal to the value of the TD Points redeemed. If there are insufficient TD Points available to cover the entire amount of the travel purchase, the Account will only be credited by the value of the TD Points redeemed. Any amount of the travel purchase not covered by the TD Points redeemed will remain on the Account for payment. [2] Applies to new TD First Class Travel *Visa Infinite* Accounts only. Bonus TD Points will be awarded to the new Account upon approval. Offer may be changed, extended or withdrawn at any time without notice and cannot be combined with any other offer. *Trade-mark of The Toronto-Dominion Bank.

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Calgary company buys interest in BP Colombian oil

Talisman Energy teams up with Colombian oil company Ecopetrol to buy $1.9B US worth of reserves

Calgary-based Talisman said yesterday it will pay $858 million US for a 49 per cent interest in BP's Colombian properties, while Ecopetrol SA will hold the other 51 per cent.

"These are tremendous assets that our team knows well. They are attractively priced, with excellent running room and we are partnering with the pre-eminent oil and gas company in Colombia," John Manzoni, Talisman's president and CEO, said in a release.

JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ John Manzoni

Ecopetrol produces about 60 per cent of its output from Columbia. The company also operates in Brazil, Peru and the U.S. part of the Gulf of Mexico.

Talisman and Ecopetrol are already partners in several oil and gas exploration blocks in Colombia and Peru.

The properties contain about 94 million barrels of proved and probable reserves. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Asset sale

- BP has said it will divest up to $30 billion of assets to help it pay the huge price tag for the cleanup of the area affected by the spill that dumped between 356 million litres and 697 million litres of oil into the Gulf.
- Last month, the British energy giant agreed to sell assets in the U.S., Canada and Egypt to Apache Corp. for $7 billion US, including natural gas properties in Western Canada. It also plans to sell assets in Pakistan and Vietnam.
- The Colombian asset sale is slated to close by the end of the year and will add about 12,000 oil equivalent daily barrels of production to the Calgary company, which has operated in Colombia for a decade.

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▶ A sign for MasterCard credit cards is shown on the entrance to a New York bank in this file photo.

MARK LENNIHAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Just sayin'

PAUL SULLIVAN

Paul Sullivan's Just Sayin' column will return Aug. 18

LEARNING A LESSON FROM NOAH

On the chance the Gulf of Mexico oil spill threatens some sea creatures with extinction, naturalist Jack Rudloe hopes his laboratory can save them.

Rudloe has launched Operation Noah's Ark, using his four-acre facility an hour south of Tallahassee, Fla., to preserve more than 350 different specimens — everything from sharks to starfish, shrimp and batfish — in an environment that includes a grassland and duplicates high and low tides. And he's not doing it two-by-two. The fiddler crabs, for instance, number around 50,000.

"We have this endless supply of critters and water out there," said Rudloe, 67, whose enchantment with the Gulf and its inhabitants dates back some 40 years.

"We have to get as many animals in there as we can and then if the conditions permit, be able to put some of them back and get some things started."

Though the broken oil rig has been capped since mid-July and little heavy crude is visible on the Gulf, Rudloe said he's still committed to the project.

"I don't believe that the oil is gone," Rudloe said. "It's still out there in cold water, little tiny droplets that could come spilling up here in the wrong conditions of one or two hurricanes."

Rudloe's Dickerson Bay laboratory is about 20 miles from the easternmost point where oil has been reported on Florida's Panhandle. Still, he worries about oil fouling his 50 tanks, which use saltwater pulled through an 800-foot pipeline from the Gulf. He is installing filtration systems just in case.

"If everything is dead, the marshes are black, the water is foul ... we still want to keep the place going," Rudloe said.

"We would have to have live support systems where we can keep things alive."

Rudloe estimates the project could cost $1.2 million US. He can't afford that kind of financial hit, coming at a time when his wife — noted marine biologist Anne Rudloe — is battling a serious illness.

The non-profit, licensed facility, which attracts about 18,000 visitors annually, depends on admission fees, memberships and donations.

A New York native who moved to Florida in his early teens, Rudloe, who is self-taught, has joined with his wife to write books on the Gulf ecosystem along with articles for National Geographic, Sports Illustrated and other publications.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Helping hands

Naturalist Jack Rudloe has received some outside help since the spill.

- **Separator** Pennsylvania-based Martin Marine shipped a $25,000 water-oil separator that Rudloe said could save the day, sifting out petrochemicals.
- **Tanks** He will also use roughly 50 large water tanks to store "healthy seawater" to maintain hundreds of other critters, including sea urchins, sea cucumbers, sponges, sea horses and spinybox fish.

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDER

Health and numbers

Letters & Tweets

HALIFAX. On June 26, the federal government announced Canadians would no longer be required to complete Canada's long-form census.

Doctors Nova Scotia is concerned that the alternative — a voluntary survey — will not be able to provide the necessary credible data to guide health-care policy and program development in our province.

The information gathered from the long-form census is critical to the development and delivery of health-care programs and services.

Reliable information is key when meeting the challenges that face our health-care system.

JANE BROOKS, PRESIDENT, DOCTORS NOVA SCOTIA

Re: "Forest bathing" aids well-being (Aug. 3)

TORONTO. I wish to thank Metro for printing the article by Celia Milne.

These are heritage trees. Milne brought to our attention the importance of forests and our well-being.

It was perfect timing since the United Nations has declared 2011 as the International Year of Forests to raise awareness, preserve and conserve all types of these forests for generations to come.

EDITH GEORGE

Data decision

Lady Gaga: Hot or not?

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Metro Minute with Alexander Winfield

Take a stroll along Queen Street West on a summer day and you will likely stumble upon a small, homemade puppet booth, whose furry denizens would like nothing more than to sing you a song. About cats. Or dogs. Or your favourite fruit. In a charming Bermudan accent. There's a notable contrast between the trendier-than-thou strip of downtown occupied by puppeteer Alexander Winfield, and the type of silly, unusual, even endearing street performances he puts on each weekend. But the accomplished performer simply wants to connect with people, make them laugh or, at the very least, sing them a song about bananas.

JORDANA DIVON

CONTRIBUTED

▶ You can find Alexander Winfield's puppet booth on Queen Street West between University and Spadina on weekend afternoons.

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SUBMITTED PHOTO

▶ New buddy cop movie The Other Guys pairs Will Ferrell and Mark Wahlberg. The movie opens in theatres on Friday.

Buddy cops team for comedy gold

Will Ferrell and Mark Wahlberg breathe new life into genre with The Other Guys ◗ Films that pair opposing lawmen often reflect real situations

STEVE GOW
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

The Other Guys certainly isn't Hollywood's first buddy cop movie. It's not even the first one this year — thanks to February's release of Cop Out.

With The Other Guys however, comic Will Ferrell and Oscar-nominee Mark Wahlberg aim to revitalize the long-standing genre that has flourished since the 1980s with favorites like Beverly Hills Cop, Stakeout and Lethal Weapon.

Commonly comprised of two opposing lawmen, the buddy cop movie may be a perennial favourite but the real question is, how true to life are these films?

"Certainly I think they sex them up a bit for Hollywood," said Cam Woolley, a retired 30-year Ontario Provincial Police officer and now a television reporter on Toronto's CP24. "(But) most people probably wouldn't believe how much of it is true."

Ethnicity often plays a central factor in many of these films (48 Hrs, Rush Hour) but they aren't completely reliant on cultural distinctions. More importantly, the main characteristic of all buddy cop films has to do with the interdependence between distinct personalities.

"(In movies), they're usually dissimilar and that's where you have half the fun where you have these two characters that don't fit very well," said Woolley. "And that's true because the police aren't usually picking their partners for a variety of reasons ... but you ultimately have to depend on each other."

Whether it's such big-ticket blockbusters as Bad Boys or a Canadian hit like Bon Cop, Bad Cop, it's that conflicting alliance that creates the perfect contrast for classic comedy.

"When coppers watch these movies, there's lots of little sideways looks and giggles," laughed Woolley, before hinting at an added value perhaps only officers can appreciate. "I always found it amusing that the boss always gets an extra hard ride."

Buddy cop movies

- **1967 — In The Heat of the Night:** Although not a comedy, this Norman Jewison drama is largely considered an early pioneer for mismatched cops.
- **1982 — 48 Hrs:** This Eddie Murphy/Nick Nolte comedy kicks off the decade of the buddy cop, which soon follows with Dragnet, Stakeout, Midnight Run.
- **1987 — Lethal Weapon:** Lethal Weapon becomes one of the most successful franchises.
- **1988 — Alien Nation:** This cult favourite marks the first pairing of a cop and an extraterrestrial.
- **1997 — Men in Black:** The all-time top-earning version of a buddy-cop comedy (more than $250 million worldwide).
- **2006 – Bon Cop, Bad Cop:** Canada finally gets its own buddy-cop movie and becomes one of the nation's highest-grossing films in history.

2 scene

News in brief

Christopher Nolan's Inception, which stars Marion Cotillard, will be released in China, the country's film importer said yesterday, giving a lucrative foreign market to a sci-fi thriller that already has become a global sensation. China Film Group will give the Warner Bros. production one of its coveted 20 annual slots for revenue-sharing imports.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Obama, Lady Gaga earn spots on Vanity Fair's best-dressed list

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BOOKS

Smart Angel writing memoir

The Smart Angel is writing a memoir.

Gallery Books said yesterday that Charlie's Angel star Kate Jackson will look back on her acting career and her personal crises and triumphs, from surviving breast cancer to adopting a boy.

The book, currently untitled, is scheduled for June 2011. Gallery is an imprint of Simon & Schuster.

Back in the 1970s, Jackson starred with Farrah Fawcett and Jaclyn Smith on the hit TV series Charlie's Angels.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Smith jury selection resumes

Jury selection will resume in the Anna Nicole Smith drug conspiracy case after most prospective jurors were eliminated during the first round of questioning.

Judge Robert Perry ordered a new group to report after attorney challenges excluded all but a few of the first 60 perspective jurors.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cheers' Norm heads to P.E.I.

Rumour has it that a few extra kegs of beer are on order for an upcoming production at the Charlottetown Festival.

The festival has announced that George Wendt, best known for his role as Norm on the TV series Cheers, will headline the cast of Hairspray.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Will.i.am distraught over Michael Jackson album

Black Eyed Peas frontman says release of new material 'disrespectful'

MICHAEL BUCKNER/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Will.i.am collaborated with Michael Jackson on the rerelease of Thriller in 2008.

A new Michael Jackson album is expected by the end of the year, culled from unreleased material in his vaults.

But Jackson collaborator and Black Eyed Peas frontman will.i.am is vehemently opposed to the idea.

"I don't think that should ever come out. That's bad," he said. "He was a perfectionist and he wouldn't have wanted it that way. How you gonna release Michael Jackson when Michael Jackson ain't here to bless it?"

Will.i.am collaborated with Jackson on the re-release of Thriller in 2008 with remixed versions of some of the album's classic songs.

He said Jackson was very particular about all aspects of his musical productions, from his vocals to arrangements to instrumentation.

"Now that he is not part of the process, what are they doing? Why would you put a record out like that? Because he was a friend of mine, I just think that's disrespectful," he said. "What's wrong with what he already contributed to the world?"

The Jackson estate did not respond to a request for comment.

Not much is known about what will be on the album, but Michael's brother Jackie has said he and brother Marlon were working on the record with John McClain, Jackson's former manager and executor of his estate.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"So what? You don't disrespect someone when they're gone. ... How much can you suck from his energy? ... Freaking parasites!"

WILL.I.AM, WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE HIGH DEMAND FOR ANY NEW JACKSON MUSIC

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K'naan shining a light on Somalia

- Canadian rapper hasn't backed down on keeping political messages in his work
- Wavin' Flag sold more than 300,000 downloads

When rapper K'naan was recording songs peppered with tales about warfare, poverty and despair in his native Somalia, there were people who told him he should consider abandoning his socially conscious frame of mind for material that wasn't so sombre.

Most of those people were Somalis, K'naan recalls.

"They didn't want someone's shining talent to be wasted on such a disaster," K'naan said recently. "They wanted to see themselves out there, and they knew there was rarely a chance that you could do it while carrying the baggage of Somalia. So they would say, 'Put it down and just go and be a star like these other people are.'"

But K'naan, along with a new generation of African-born singers like Nneka and Cornielle, are getting acclaim these days by using their experiences to express political messages, varied life experiences and sounds influenced by their years on the continent.

K'naan, who now lives in Canada, had a global audience recently when he performed a remixed version of his song Wavin' Flag at the kickoff concert for the World Cup. Though the original lyrics, a bittersweet homage to his native Somalia, had been changed to talk about a general celebration of nationality, he held the Somali flag up high on stage, something he never thought possible.

"It had been buried under a rubble of bad stories for 20 years now. Nobody expects to see the Somali flag in a beautiful moment," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HASSAN AMMAR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ K'naan is leading the forefront of a growing group of African-born musicians who are making a mainstream impact.

African stars

▶ **Jason King,** an associate professor at New York University's Clive Davis Department of Recorded Music, points out a list of successful acts of past generations, including Senegalese singer Youssou N'Dour, Nigerian-born Tony Allen and even rock star Freddie Mercury, who was born on the island of Zanzibar. There's also Ladysmith Black Mambazo and Miriam Makeba, among others.

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Housewives to perform for charity

Cast members from Bravo's The Real Housewives of New Jersey are going off-Broadway.

An announcement yesterday says Teresa Giudice, Ashley Holmes, Jacqueline Laurita, Caroline Manzo and Lauren Manzo will join the cast of My Big Gay Italian Wedding for four performances Sept. 1-4. A portion of the proceeds from tickets sales will benefit Marriage Equality New York, which works to raise public awareness for equal marital rights. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Seacrest misses Simon

American Idol host Ryan Seacrest says it could be weeks before the guessing game over the show's new judges comes to an end.

Seacrest joked he misses Cowell, his roommate while on the road for auditions. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Michaels to host pageant

Rocker Bret Michaels and TV correspondent Natalie Morales are hosting this year's Miss Universe Pageant.

The Miss Universe Organization made the announcement yesterday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

McCartney a big fan of Glee, wants songs on show

MATT SAYLES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Glee creator Ryan Murphy.

Glee co-creator Ryan Murphy thought he was being "punked" when a fan note arrived from Paul McCartney.

But Murphy discovered that the pop legend is an admirer of the hit Fox TV show and wants his music to be part of it. McCartney enclosed a mix of some of his tunes, including Michelle, and asked Murphy to consider using them on the series about high school misfits in a glee club.

"I was gobsmacked. I grew up with that guy. So, of course, we are going to do something," Murphy told the Television Critics Association's summer meeting Monday.

The former Beatle won't be the only familiar name associated with Glee when it returns next season. Susan Boyle, the unlikely Britain's Got Talent discovery, is in talks to be part of the Christmas episode, Murphy said.

Another hour will feature the songs of Britney Spears, and the show is wooing a "major" artist, whom Murphy wouldn't identify. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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GETTY IMAGES

▶ Mischa Barton

Barton opts for London instead of Hollywood

Mischa Barton is reportedly ready to ditch Hollywood to follow her new boyfriend to London, according to Heat magazine.

Barton has been dating DJ Ali Love for about a month, but that's reportedly been plenty of time to make up her mind.

"Mischa's found a great new guy. She can't wait to move to London to be with him. It's already in the works," a source says. "Instead of Hollywood gigs, Mischa's focusing on a stage career in the West End. She wants to spend a year in London and see where things go with both the theatre and Ali."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Out of this world gift for Brand

Songstress Perry buys beau a trip to space on Virgin Galactic's maiden voyage for his birthday

Katy Perry is apparently a great gift-giver.

For fiancé Russell Brand's 35th birthday, she purchased him a $200,000 US ticket on the first Virgin Galactic flight into space, according to E! News. Perry isn't planning on going into orbit herself, though friends think she should.

"She should get the seat right next to him," a source says.

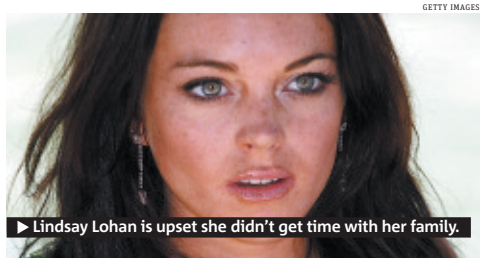
No date has been set for Virgin Galactic's maiden voyage. More than 200 people have reportedly signed up for a flight. The endeavour was started by Sir Richard Branson.

Meanwhile, Perry is set to appear on the cover of Rolling Stone magazine in lingerie. METRO WORLD NEWS

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Katy Perry spent $200,000 US on her fiancé's birthday gift.

GETTY IMAGES



▶ Lindsay Lohan is upset she didn't get time with her family.

Lohan ordered straight to rehab

While Lindsay Lohan was certainly happy she only had to serve 14 days of her 90-day jail sentence, she's reportedly not very happy about not getting to see her family when she got out, according to People magazine.

"Lindsay is very upset that the judge ordered her to go straight to rehab," a source says. "(Lindsay) feels that she deserved to spend a day with her family after she behaved well in jail."

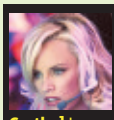
Lohan's mother and sister met up with her at the UCLA Medical Center once she'd checked in for her 90-day rehab program.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Celebrity tweets

Bill Cosby [@BillCosby] Emotional friends have called about this misinformation. To the people behind the foolishness, I'm not sure you see how upsetting this is. (on reports of his death)

Samantha Ronson [@samanthaaronson] One would think the safest place for a safe key would be inside the safe. That is until you try again to unlock that safe.



Jenny McCarthy [@JennyMcCarthy] In vegas. What happened to all the magicians? Looking for a good cheesy show. No tigers and no one with the last name of Angel.

Russell Brand [@rustyrockets] I'm doing a pretend wedding in a real church while acting drunk. Forgive me Lord. And @katyperry.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Sheen sentenced to 30 days in rehab

Charlie Sheen has been sentenced to 30 days in rehab in connection to his Christmas morning domestic incident with wife Brooke Mueller in Aspen, Colo., according to Exposay.

He was also given a 30-day suspended jail sentence after agreeing to a plea bargain. "I'm very grateful to the court and to the people of Pitkin County," Sheen said in statement.

"I look forward to complying with the court's decision, getting on with my life and putting this behind me."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Bieber set for a 3D movie debut

Justin Bieber will be taking his life story to the big screen, according to Deadline.com. The 16-year-old pop sensation reportedly signed a deal with Paramount Pictures for a 3D biopic to be released next February.

METRO WORLD NEWS

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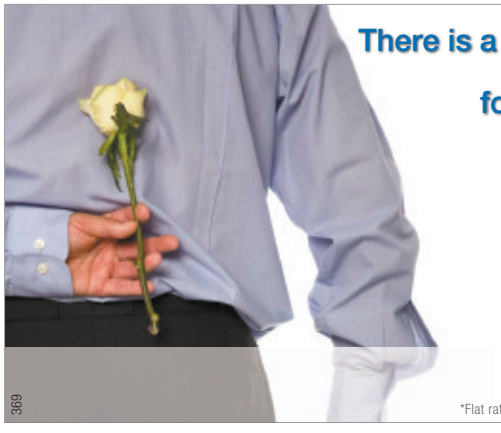

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369

3 life

Top picks

Travel find this week:

1 **Get wet:** When it opened in early June 2010 about a half-hour's drive east of downtown Ottawa in the small town of Limoges, Calypso became Canada's largest waterpark, with slides, games and numerous ways to get and stay wet. calypsopark.com

2 **Deals:** Bid on a selection of hotel packages for everyone from the discerning luxury traveler and those seeking a quick getaway to deals targeted towards family journeys at LuxuryLink.com and their recently launched sister sites FamilyGetaway.com

3 **Cruises:** Visit tripharbour.ca to find a wide selection of cruise ship deals, reviews on trips and stay up to date on the industry.

ScanLife

After attracting visitors for a generation, Texas version of Stonehenge to move

Going, going Ghana

- The heat of Accra is matched only by the energy of its inhabitants
- There is so much happening here 24/7 that it's impossible to get bored

ROMINA McGUINNESS
TRAVEL@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

"Akwaaba!" Welcome to Ghana ..."

Why go now?
Bordering the Gulf of Guinea and wedged between Ivory Coast and Togo, Accra is one of Ghana's hippest cities. The capital's boundless energy is contagious and obvious in all aspects of everyday life. It's loud too — whether it's the women pounding fufu (maize paste) or haggling over the price of fried plantain on the sidewalk. Voodoo belief and influence leaves its mark too and impossible to ignore is the Ghanaians' love of a good party.

It's my first time. What should I do there?
Ghana's coastline is some 500 km of unspoiled beach lined with coconut and palm trees and Labadi Pleasure Beach is the most popular one in Accra. Put your feet up and relax on your sun lounger as you get a quick mani-pedi on the spot or join in a game of Frisbee or beach volleyball.

I've been before. What should I see this time?
Drinking a pint of Guinness at Ryan's Irish Pub may seem like the wrong thing to do, but strangely, it's wonderful. Try out a tro-tro, local commercial buses that will zoom you up and down every alleyway of Accra, showing you exciting new places. Spend an afternoon visiting the fishing port James Town and then climbing to the top of the old Lighthouse for some spectacular views over the Atlantic Ocean.

Where's the best place for shopping?
Loom (117 Kwame Nkrumah Ave) is the best place for high-end local arts and crafts. African glass pearls, ebony statuettes and intricate woodcarvings can all be found here. For the most elegant textiles there's no place like Woodin's whose reputation for beauty and quality of print is respected throughout West Africa.

What's the nightlife like?
Accra's nightlife is a whirlwind of song and dance and keeping up with the local pace is tough. Start with a dinner of sushi or crocodile tail at Monsoon. Get yourself into the swing of things at Indigo (near Danquah Circle), a trendy club located within an old embassy building. Near Oxford Street is Lizzie's, ideal for those who want to keep on dancing into the night and like their hip-hop.

▶ Colourful: Ghana is a riot of energy and life

FLICKRCC JAMESCRIDLAND

▶ Party animals: And they know how to have a good time.

3 THINGS TO DO

LOMÉ

Cross the Togolese border to the port city of Lomé. The Grand Marché is a massive concrete block where thousands of buyers and sellers meet daily to haggle and squabble over anything from meat, pearls, plantains, plastic cups and cigarettes. French is the main western language spoken in the area. Lome also has one of the best restaurant scenes in West Africa. But it's one of the best kept secrets for a reason, so get some help finding it.

VOODOO DOLLS

Follow the crowd along Hansen Street making its way to Timber Market. Don't let the unknown put you off. The fetish section is fascinating, from the juju dolls to the furry trinkets, animal skulls and little bottle of powdered potions. Magic.

TURTLE TALES

Ada Foah on the Volta Estuary is one of the most of important nesting and breeding sites for endangered marine turtles. The beach is also a sanctuary for estuarine birds, making it a true bird-watchers paradise. Hitch up a tent or sleep in one of the thatched roof bungalows at a nearby beach resort.

ERIC RISBERG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ A vineyard of Chateau Biac is seen with the Garonne River in the background in Langoiran, France.

Fall for French wines

The Bordeaux region is no longer just for the bourgeoisie

There's something noble about Bordeaux wines, and it's not just the proud heritage of their 100-year-old vines, their prominent place in viticulture history or their world-renowned quality.

It's also the "noble rot" responsible for creating some of the region's sweeter wines, which are being paired more frequently with main courses alongside their better-known Bordeaux counterparts.

Some people use the term Bordeaux generically, the way others might ask for a Cabernet, but Bordeaux wines actually come in several distinct varieties, such as sweet white wines and dry white wines, in addition to several different types of red wine. The Bordeaux region has multiple microclimates, fuelled by rivers that wrap around the area in the southwest of France.

Bordeaux

How to get there and what to do

- **Travel** Getting to Bordeaux is an easy one-hour flight from Paris, or a little over three hours on a high-speed (TGV) train.
- **Call ahead** Unlike visits to other wine regions most visits to vineyards and wineries should be arranged in advance, and need an appointment

And from these microclimates and variations in terroir (the vineyard soil and other growing conditions), winemakers are coaxing wines that are smooth and lush, rich and complex, with one eye on past traditions and one on the future. The diversity of Bordeaux wines can be explored in person, in places like Saint-Emilion, about an hour's drive from the city of Bordeaux. One of the main red wine areas of Bordeaux, Saint-Emilion's wineries employ similar growing, harvesting and winemaking techniques, though its silky red wines are a stark contrast to those of its nearby neighbours.

Once a standoffish community, the region has begun to open its doors more in recent years and average travellers are discovering its beauty.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ The diversity and heritage of Bordeaux wines can be explored in a visit to the region in southwest France.

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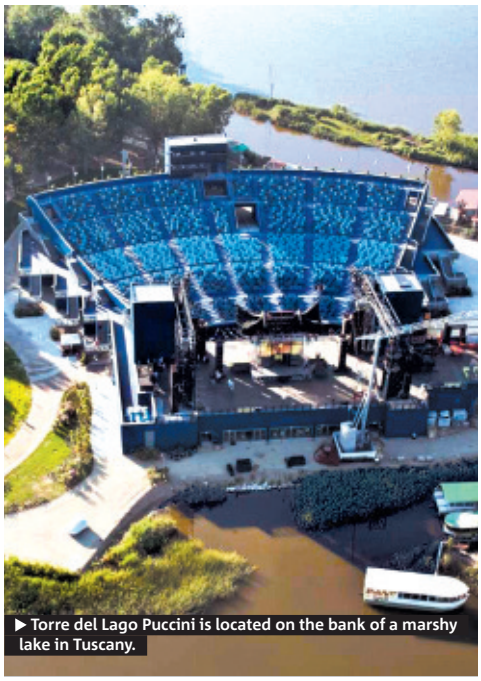

▶ Torre del Lago Puccini is located on the bank of a marshy lake in Tuscany.

Lighting up the sky

FROM PERCHED ON HIGH, AN ITALIAN OPERA IS SOMETHING EVERYONE SHOULD SEE IN THEIR LIFETIME

The visuals dance against the sky as the music floats up to the heavens and back down into your ears.

Opera is as fundamental to Italy's soul as the Colosseum, Michelangelo or pasta. To attend an opera performance here in the summer is a quintessential Italian experience — especially if you're willing to brave the often-Byzantine process for getting last-minute but astonishingly cheap tickets.

"I don't understand a word of Italian, but I had to be here for the experience," Dr. Ravindran Kanesvaran, a young oncologist from Singapore, confessed in a whisper as we waited in La Scala, Italy's most famous opera house, for the crimson curtain to open on Aida.

Top tickets for the season-opener at La Scala in Milan go for about $2,400 , but the last-minute seats Kanesvaran and I got for a mid-season sold-out performance cost just $15.

The basic concept of opera — putting dramatic presentations to music — is universal, but the modern version was created at the end of the 16th century for Italian aristocracy. Largely thanks to late tenor and native son Luciano Pavarotti, it has become part of pop culture here.

Teatro alla Scala, the theatre's official full name, was one of three iconic venues I hit last summer. It's the must-do for acoustics and prestige. The other two are notable in part for their settings: Arena di Verona, an almost-intact Roman amphitheatre in Verona; and Torre del Lago Puccini, where another open-air theatre sits on the bank of a marshy lake in Tuscany. It's next to the place where Giacomo Puccini composed many of his most famous operas.

From champagne flutes in gilded halls to a panini picnic on 1,900-year-old steps, the three evenings couldn't have been more different. Here are some details, along with a word of caution: Some shows have been cancelled this year due to wildcat strikes over new government regulations.

TEATRO ALLA SCALLA

Never mind that I was perched high above the swirls of gilded flowers and red velvet draperies, above four tiers of regal boxes and nearly up against the rosette-covered ivory ceiling. The firefighter on duty, at the top gallery row inside this fantastically opulent 1770s theatre, approved of my choice of seat.

Top critics, he said, like to be in the gallery so no abundance of visual flourish could distract them from the sublime listening. No serious opera connoisseur myself, I found it hard not to be absorbed by Franco Zeffirelli's lavish staging of Giuseppe Verdi's Aida.

Premiered in 1871 in Cairo, and next year at La Scala, the opera tells a tragic tale of love and pharaonic intrigue in ancient Egypt. The grandest of grand operas, its staging that July night was a profusion of massive choruses against gigantic hieroglyphs.

Listening to Verdi's music at La Scala is an immersion not only in art but history, and well worth the day I spent getting a rush ticket.

But the procedure was tortuous: Around 11:30 a.m., I got in line outside the theatre so that my name would be among the 140 taken down by volunteers at the roll call beginning at 1 p.m. At 5:30 p.m., I got in line again to be given a number, with which I queued one last time to get the ticket that would finally grant me entry that evening. But it only cost a fraction of the front-row $300 tickets.

ARENA DI VERONA

If Aida is the grandest of Italian operas, its most stunning staging is at Verona's Arena, a first-century Roman amphitheatre that has hosted theatre performances since the early 1700s.

In the warm July dusk, I sat on the top row of giant limestone steps, as the sunset cast a salmon-pink glow over the city's medieval bell-towers and vine-covered hills, while strings opened the first notes.

In the 19,000-seat open-air arena, it's hard to distinctly make out the lyrics,

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RUDY AMISANO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ To attend an opera performance in Italy in the Summer is a quintessential Italian experience.

but no setting can better display Verdi's dramatic monumentality. And Verdi's popular appeal is nowhere more apparent than in the contrast between the informal feel of the audience sharing jugs of wine and sandwiches on the steps and the over-the-top staging. The first massive, full-orchestra chorus invoking war against Egypt's Ethiopian invaders was so thrillingly powerful that even the director jumped up and down.

Where Verdi's music excites fury and glory, Puccini's aims straight at the heart with sensuous, tear-jerking melodies.

PUCCINI FESTIVAL

Puccini penned some of his most famous arias in his Tuscan house by the marshy Lake Massaciuccoli in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Every summer, a Puccini festival is held next-door in an open-air theatre. Ducklings scurry away as you enter via a lakeside wooden bridge.

Years ago, lantern-laden rowboats were sprinkled on the lake behind the stage for a performance of Madama Butterfly. For last summer's performance of Turandot, I thought the orchestra was going all out with gongs and cymbals until I realized a strong thunderstorm was exploding in the mountains behind our seats.

But to experience this show not in a theatre, but among fragrant linden trees on a balmy night, is incomparable.

No stage setting could so precisely replicate the fairy tale's first glimpse of a happy ending.

Most poignantly, it is the same lakeside evening Puccini enjoyed, when this aria was still playing only in the mind of one of Italy's greatest musicians.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

If you go

Italian opera must be seen to be understood.

- **LA SCALA** Located in Milan. The opera season is year-round, with no performances in August; teatroallascala.org. Guidelines for rush tickets (about $15): http://bit.ly/92I2IC
- **ARENA DI VERONA** Located in Verona, about halfway between Milan and Venice. The 2010 season is June 18-Aug. 29; arena.it
- **PUCCINI FESTIVAL** Located in Torre del Lago, in Tuscany, about 30 kilometres from Pisa. The 2010 edition is July 16-Aug. 22; puccinifestival.it
- **STRIKES** Some performances in the 2010 season have been cancelled last minute due to wildcat strikes. Buyer beware.

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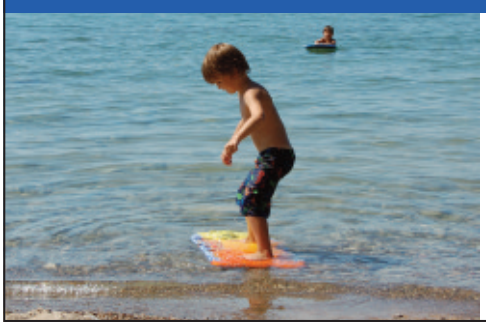
it's time for a time out



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COAST TO COASTLINE

Your Vacation's a Breeze in Barbados

What do Barbadians love most about their homeland? It might be the beaches: Barbados has 60 of them, all open to the public. Maybe it's the balmy weather—Barbadians enjoy over 3,000 hours of sunshine per year, with daily rainfall of less than 1/4 inch. Maybe it's the rum. But whatever brings you to Barbados' beaming shores, expect to have the time of your life. More than 280,000 island residents can't be wrong

ONE LAND, MANY DESTINATIONS

Drawing from a mix of West Indian, English and African influences, Barbados has a history as intriguing as its coastlines. The nation's capital, Bridgetown, boasts the third-oldest parliament in the Commonwealth. Barbados is also home to Codrington College, the oldest seminary in the Western Hemisphere, and Drax Hall, one of only three Jacobean mansions still standing in this part of the world. Barbados is also famous as the only country George Washington ever visited outside of the United States. Discover lots more fascinating facts at the Barbados Museum, housed in a former British military prison.

TASTE THE GOOD LIFE

Barbados has much to teach visitors, but when the day's learning is done, many choose to sample a different side of the island's heritage: its legendary rum. First distilled from the sugar cane plant more than 350 years ago, Barbadian rum may be the oldest in the world. Its global popularity attests to the quality of Barbadian sprits, in more ways than one.

Photo: The Barbados Tourism Authority

DRINK IN THE SUN

Whether you've got a glass in-hand or not, Barbadian vistas always impress. End your day (or heck, start it) on the white sands and still waters of the island's west coast—or head for the east coast to witness an array of wind-sculpted coral formations. To the south lies Bottom Bay, a swimmer's paradise of waters surrounded by reefs.

Inland, Barbados provides an endless feast of sights and sounds, but perhaps none sum up this Caribbean melting pot better than its two baobab trees. Native to Madagascar, the trees were brought to the island in 1738, with the largest today measuring nearly 17 m (55 ft) around. Like so much of Barbados, the trees are a memorable mix of old and new world cultures—unique, beautiful and hard to forget.

BARBADOS FOOD & WINE AND RUM FESTIVAL

The Barbadian palate ventures beyond a good drink. One of many opportunities for fine food on the island, this year's Barbados Food & Wine and Rum Festival is also your chance learn great cooking first-hand, thanks to a series of demonstrations, tasting events and interactive sessions provided by celebrity chefs Tom Colicchio, Marcus Samuelsson, Ming Tsai and Tim Love, along with local Barbadian culinary talent. Ricardo Larrivée, Canadian chef and host of Ricardo and Friends on the Food Network, will be representing Canada in this festival, which lasts from November 19 to 22, 2010.

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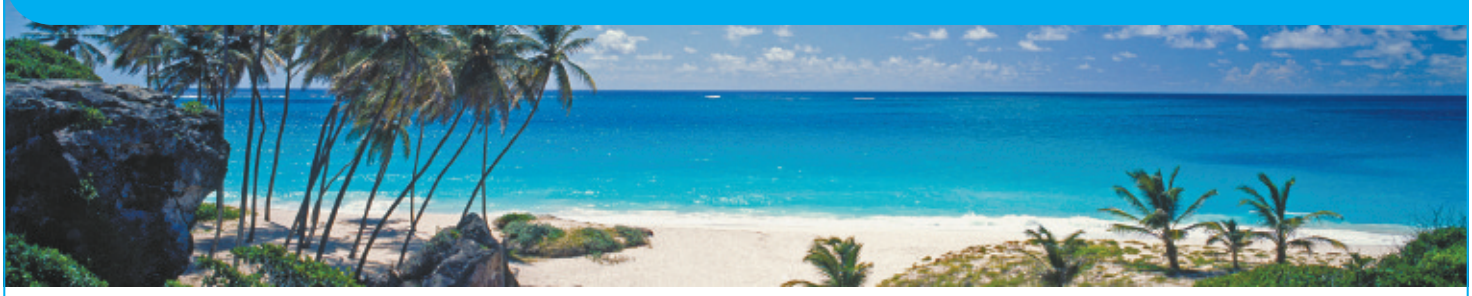

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London full of capital class

The city is awash with hotel rooms which means the savvy traveller is allowed to be picky. We've selected five of our current favourites ...

PAUL BALDWIN
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METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

"London's cut-throat market means the customer is in charge."

There are more than 110,000 hotel rooms with three stars or above in London — more than anywhere else in Europe.

Which means the traveler has their pick of some of the best accommodation on the planet.

The city has everything from the sprawling chain hotels (efficient but dull) to the tiny B&B's of Kings Cross (choose very carefully).

But at Metro Travel we think a hotel in a major city with cut-throat competition should serve up excellent value with lashings of style and customer feel-good factor.

Here's five of our current favourites.

10 MANCHESTER STREET
10 Manchester St.

Handy for: The Planetarium, Madame Tussaud's
Tube: Baker Street

Lovely, ever-so-British boutique hotel seconds from mega-busy Oxford St. but somehow tucked down a sleepy side street that feels a little bit Mary Poppins. Lovely quality inside. Elevator is a bit poky but the rooms are fresh and airy, restaurant is excellent, and there's an outside terrace for cigar smoking.

THE KINGSLEY
126 Southampton Row, Bloomsbury

Handy for: Covent Garden, British Museum, West End, Eurostar
Tube: Russell Square

Actually owned by mega-brand Thistle this is a foray into the boutique sector. And it's highly successful. Good position a stone's throw from the British Museum in the Bloomsbury of Dickens and Woolf, and great rooms. Good value too.
thistle.com

CALICO HOUSE
42 Bow Lane

Handy for: St Paul's Cathedral, Monument, Tower of London
Tube: Mansion House

Not really a hotel but a serviced apartment in the heart of the City. The closest thing you'll feel to actually 'living London' rather than just being a tourist — and for hotel prices. Hidden down a tiny lane which feels fantastically Dickensian the concierge-governed apartment is modern yet homely. And you get a fridge not a minibar!
chevalresidences.com

THE CADOGAN HOTEL
75 Sloane St., Knightsbridge

Handy for: Harrods, Buckingham Palace, Natural History Museum
Tube: Knightsbridge

Okay, this is a pretty big hotel, but it's just a bit fab. This 1887 gaff is Oscar Wilde's old hang out (he was arrested for gross indecency here) and the mantle has been passed on to the city's more contemporary celebs. But ignore that and drink in the wonderful interiors and, if you can afford, the brilliant Langtry's restaurant.
cadogan.com

CHARLOTTE STREET HOTEL
Charlotte St.

Handy for: Theatres, West End

▶London calling: 10 Manchester Street

Tube: Goodge Street

Ultra-trendy London media hangout, with suitably cool (if pricey) bar. Flash the credit card though and this is a properly chic hotel. Restaurant is good rather than genius but the buzz is palpable and properly exciting. Generally great rooms and wonderful drawing rooms downstairs.
firmdale.com

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New York Travel Aug 19 - Aug 26/pd	$214 + taxes & fees $126
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Phoenix Travel Oct 13 - Oct 20/dl	$339 + taxes & fees $130
Amsterdam Travel Aug 30 - Sep 11/ts	$349 + taxes & fees $337
San Francisco Travel Oct 13 - Oct 20/dl	$389 + taxes & fees $131
Honolulu Travel Sep 15 - Sep 22/dl	$458 + taxes & fees $128
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Orlando Family Special Air + 7 Nights — $149◊ + taxes & fees $244
Comfort Inn Lake Buena Vista
INCLUDES accom near *Walt Disney World* Resort. Price per person based on a family of 4. Departs Sep 5/swg/wg.

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Grilled steak sandwiches

Treat hungry gang at the cottage to hearty sandwiches with whole-grain mustard sauce

One of the most juicy and tender beef cuts, rump or tri-tip steak, is ideal for these marvellous grilled sandwiches with whole-grain mustard sauce. It's a perfect choice for a cottage patio lunch or supper.

Preparation:

1. In a small bowl, combine paste ingredients. Rub paste all over roast, cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for 1 hour.
2. In a small bowl, combine sauce ingredients. Refrigerate until ready to use. Allow roast to stand at room temperature for 15 to 30 minutes before grilling.
3. Prepare grill for direct and indirect cooking over medium (180 to 230 C/350 to 450 F) heat.
4. Brush cooking grates clean. Grill roast over direct medium heat until well marked on both sides, 8 to 10 minutes, turning once or twice. Then move roast over indirect medium heat and cook until it reaches your desired doneness, 15 to 20 minutes for medium rare, turning every 5 minutes or so. Keep lid closed as much as possible during grilling. Remove from grill and let rest for 5 to 10 minutes. Cut roast across grain into 5-mm (1/4-inch) slices.
5. Brush bread with butter and grill over direct medium heat until lightly toasted, about 1 minute, turning once.
6. Spread about 5 ml (1 tsp) of the sauce on 4 slices of the bread, place a layer of meat on top and then some watercress. Top with remaining bread.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ingredients:

Beef Steak Sandwiches
- 1 tri-tip rump roast, about 750 g (1 1/2 lb) and 4 cm (1 1/2 inches) thick, fat and silver skin removed
- 8 slices sourdough bread, each 1 cm (1/2 inch) thick
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) unsalted butter, softened
- 1 bunch watercress

Paste
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) whole-grain mustard
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) chopped fresh rosemary leaves
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) kosher salt
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 5 ml (1 tsp) ground black pepper

Sauce
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) whole-grain mustard
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) mayonnaise
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) extra-virgin olive oil
- 5 ml (1 tsp) red wine vinegar
- 5 ml (1 tsp) kosher salt
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) black pepper

▶ Grilled steak sandwiches with whole-grain mustard sauce.

Superfood: Peanuts

To be or nut to be.

Peanuts are not nuts — they are actually part of the legume family, and are more closely related to the chickpea than the cashew.

The peanut is high in good monounsaturated fats, which reduces the risk of heart disease. They are also a better source of antioxidants than apples, although this is no excuse to replace them in your "5-a-day count" as they still have a high calorie content.

The breakdown: A cup of peanuts (114 g) is 862 calories, 76g of fat and 40g of protein.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Fit for a king

Celebrity crush One of Elvis Presley's (many) guilty pleasures was a 'hunka-hunka fried peanut butter'— a fried peanut butter and banana sandwich. Easy, take two slices of white bread and fill them with creamy peanut butter and sliced bananas ... food fit for a King.

News in brief

High Density Library coming to uCal

EDUCATION This month, the University of Calgary will open its High Density Library (HDL), which has been modelled on Harvard University's book depository, report UToday. Shelving at the HDL is 30 feet high and books are arranged according to their size instead of call number, allowing six times as many books to be held in the building compared to a traditional library. Special climate conditions in the new library means that printed materials will be cared for in the best possible manner.

ACADEMICA.CA

UoGuelph aims to save more dogs

EDUCATION The University of Guelph says it will employ more resources in a Ontario Veterinary College (OVC) summer program to reduce the number of young beagles that die during training. This summer, 10 out of 20 dogs have died in a program that allows immigrant vets to obtain their credentials to work in Ontario. The dogs, which are bred specifically for use at OVC, have died as a result of spay and neuter surgeries. UoGuelph's director of communications says additional resources in the future will help keep more dogs alive in order to adopt them out.

ACADEMICA.CA

WWII vet leaves $1M to UNB

EDUCATION Second World War veteran Joseph Flanagan has left a $1.34-million bequest to the University of New Brunswick to support student scholarships. The gift will fund the Joseph A. and Kathleen A. Flanagan Memorial Scholarships for students from New Brunswick taking science and engineering programs at the university. Valued at $5,000 each, seven scholarships have been awarded for the upcoming school year. A nephew of Flanagan's says his uncle partly chose UNB over other institutions because of its connection to the Maritime Forest Ranger School, of which Flanagan, who passed away in 2006, is a graduate.

ACADEMICA.CA

Colleges not doing enough to curb booze

EDUCATION American colleges are not doing enough to limit student access to alcohol, according to a new study from the University of Minnesota and reported by USA Today. The study's author says a survey of 351 college administrators revealed there was "very little action" on recommendations from a 2002 report from the U.S. National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism's college drinking task force. According to the survey, over 22 per cent of college administrators were unaware of the recommendations.

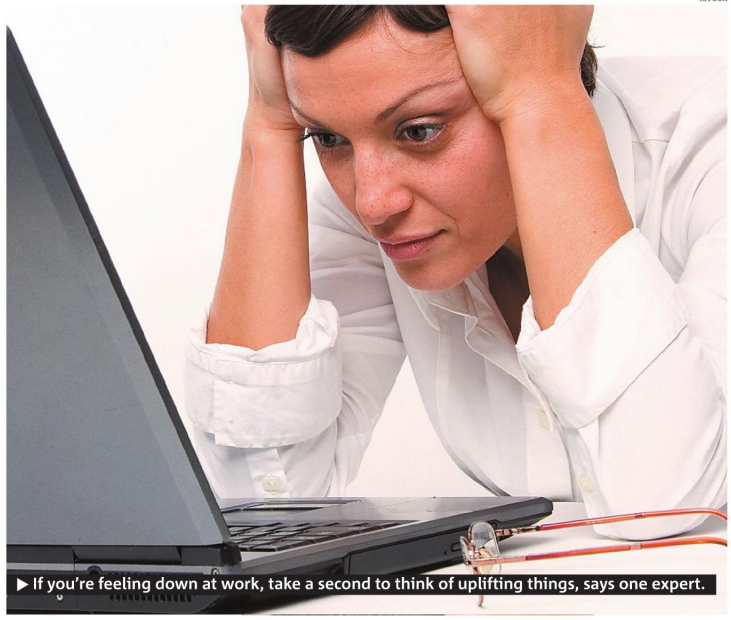
ACADEMICA.CA

Work mistakes got you down?

You're not imagining things if you notice that those feelings of inadequacy in the workplace have a way of coming back-to-back

DREW HINSHAW
METRO WORLD NEWS

ISTOCK



▶ If you're feeling down at work, take a second to think of uplifting things, says one expert.

The harmful pattern of how one mild mishap can self-multiply into a day job downward spiral of serial slipups is as familiar to the waiter who drops two dishes in a single shift as it is to the C.E.O. who drops two awkward jokes in a single shareholder's speech.

Career gurus say there's an easy backdoor away from that personal prison: When you feel like you can't do anything right, just take an instant to not do anything at all.

"Focus on something beautiful," life coach Melanie Fuscaldo says. "A moment of appreciation like, 'Oh my God, I love my dog. I love my kids.' That can do a reset."

Fanciful as daydreams of tots and puppies may seem, there's a science behind her wisdom, Dr. Pam Brill notes, explaining the neurological aspects of failure.

"When we perceive a threat, all that stress chemistry shuts down the part of our brain that allows us to think strategically and objectively."
DR. PAM BRILL

"When we perceive a threat, all that stress chemistry shuts down the front part of our brain that allows us to think strategically and objectively," the peak performance consultant says. "We get into this trap of saying, 'Woe is me, I'm not as good,' and we focus negatively."

That's why she says an outside perspective can spin panic into spunk.

"Call an old mentor," she offers. "Take them out for coffee."

Rewording the vocabulary flooding your inner ear can accomplish the same.

"When you hear yourself using phrases like, 'I can't do that, or I should've done that,' turn it around," Brill suggests. "Find the language of desire instead of the language of disaster."

"And be candid," she adds. The worst thing a self-doubter can do, she warns, is keep top-secret a project lurching towards disaster.

Laugh it off

▶ When you've really overboiled the broth, Fuscaldo recommends you "throw in a little humour. Laugh about it," she says. "Just let the thoughts roll into peaceful, loving gratitude."

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Workplace Law

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People get what they pay for. This is as true in law as it is in life. Here is one story that should make employees pause when they are offered a "free" consultation with a lawyer.

I recently met with a client seeking a second opinion following his complimentary session with another lawyer. He had found a "labour lawyer" on the Internet whose website brandished a free consultation. Believing that he would get an opinion on his case without spending a dime, this client was unfortunately drawn to the lawyer's promise.

They spoke briefly on the telephone and the lawyer swiftly provided an "opinion" that he had been wrongfully dismissed. The problem, however, is that he was wrong. Based on the lawyer's advice, the client gave him $1,500 to review the file and write a letter. He then signed an agreement permitting the lawyer to charge him based solely on the time he would spend on the file, regardless of the result.

Later on, during the lawyer's comprehensive review of the file, he discovered that the employment contract the client had signed had all but disposed of the case. The lawyer hadn't bothered to discuss the contract as a potential problem during their initial free discussion (something that most employment lawyers should spot as a matter of course). But, by the time the lawyer later realized the significance of the issue, he had performed hours of work — which, according to the retainer agreement the client had signed, was time that he would be paid for.

Therefore, the client had been billed twice the standard fee that most lawyers generally charge for an initial meeting for less than half of the work. In other words, this client's "free" consultation had become something much different. And his cautionary tale is, unfortunately, not an unusual one.

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Offering help a key to success

With a new school year fast approaching, homework will once again become a nightly activity

NEWS CANADA PHOTO

▶ A recent study showed that helping you child out with his or her homework pays off.

Making homework a positive and productive experience is something that every parent aims for. According to a recent survey conducted by Ipsos-Reid for Kumon Math and Reading Centres, if parents take the time to teach their child to actively ask for homework support, it can help them improve academic performance and enjoy a more rewarding homework experience.

According to responses from more than 1,200 Canadian parents, more than half of the children who actively engage their parents in homework support perform at an average to above average level at school.

Also, children who engage their parents in the homework process enjoy more dynamic support. From monitoring homework progress (75 per cent) to discussing the assignment (75 per cent), these children turn what can be a source of stress into an interactive, two-way dialogue about learning, creating a more rewarding and enriching homework experience.

Demonstrating an interest in your child's homework and offering support is not the same thing as completing assignments for your child. Here are some key tips on finding that balance, from Kumon Math and Reading Centres:

Know the homework policy:

Ask about the kinds of assignments students are expected to complete, the anticipated length of time it takes to complete assignments, and the expectations for parent involvement.

Establish a routine:

This means determining a regular time each day in a distraction-free environment with all of the tools and resources at hand, such as pens, pencils, paper, ruler, scissors and a dictionary.

Reinforce study habits:

Help your child to structure his or her time before assignments are due. Discuss the steps that are required and map it out with respect to the amount of time it will take to complete the assignment.

Provide support:

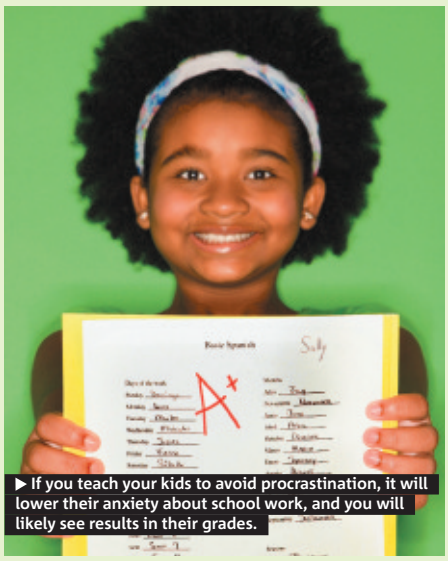
If you are not available, ensure that someone is available and follow up with your child by asking about his or her homework.

NEWS CANADA

Getting started

If your child is having trouble getting started, provide some assistance.

- Have him or her choose a question that they know how to do. Do the first question, fill in the first blank or read the first paragraph together. Ask if he or she can do the second one alone and reassure your child that you'll be available to help if there are any further stumbling blocks.



▶ If you teach your kids to avoid procrastination, it will lower their anxiety about school work, and you will likely see results in their grades.

Confidence at school spells success

A new school year is fast approaching and once again children have a brand new slate. If we take time now, say education professionals, to stir up some excitement for learning, the usual back-to-school anxiety will not only be reduced, it will be replaced with a growing confidence.

Parents can lay the groundwork with these confidence-building tips from Kumon Math and Reading Centres:

- Develop a regular study time every day. Ask your child if he or she works best right after school, just before dinner, or immediately after dinner — and while flexibility is required, do ensure that the study time is a habit that occurs every day.
- Help your child to manage assignments and tests by spreading the work out. Remember, procrastination feeds anxiety. Encourage your child to be prepared and begin assignments early.
- Take an interest in what your child is learning by asking questions and offering ideas. This gives your child an opportunity to review work and extend learning. Encourage your child to ask for help when needed.
- Review your child's homework each day to ensure completion and to support the development of good study habits.

More information is available online at kumon.ca, or on Facebook at facebook.com/kumon.

NEWS CANADA

Homework habits help grades: Survey

Did you know in the time it takes to prepare a meal for your family or enjoy your favourite re-run of Grey's Anatomy, you can positively impact your child's academic performance?

According to findings from a survey on education conducted by Ipsos-Reid, children who are performing at an above average level in school are spending 12 minutes more per night on homework than their struggling counterparts. In short, the children who spend those extra minutes studying are reaping the benefits of a richer educational experience that translates to success in the classroom.

"So how do I add 12 minutes to my child's homework routine?" Use that time to discuss the assignment with your child once it is completed. This is a wonderful way to reinforce the concepts just studied, gauge your child's understanding of what he or she has learned, determine what support he or she may require, and emphasize the importance of continued, consistent study. This advice is courtesy of Kumon Math and Reading Centres, the world's largest after-school math and reading program (kumon.ca).

"The children who spend those extra 12 minutes studying are reaping the benefits . . . that translates to success in the classroom."

NEWS CANADA

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- Esthetics/New Technologies
- Esthetics/Electrolysis
- Personal Support Worker
- Pharmacy Assistant
- Legal Administrative Assistant
- Software Training for Civil and Mechanical Engineers *
- PLC/Robotics *
- Bank Teller Training *
- MCSE 2003 & CCNA *
- Cisco VoIP certification *

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*These courses do not require approval under The Private Career Colleges Act, 2005.

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ISTOCK

▶ Want to go back to school, but can't find the time to sit in a classroom? Online, distance education may be the answer for you.

No classroom, no problem

Online/distance education is the way to go if you don't have time to attend formal classes Flexible schedules, freedom in learning style are big draws

JON TATTRIE
METRO CANADA

If you want to continue your post-secondary education, but don't have time for the classroom, online/distance learning could be your salvation.

Laurel Smith, virtual programs administrator at Mount Royal University in Calgary, says students with children or jobs are drawn by the flexible schedule.

"They have a lot of freedom in the style of learning and can learn in a way that best suits their needs," she says.

Mount Royal gets students straight out of high school and students returning after decades in the workforce.

Most students take online courses in their own communities, showing location is less important than convenient times.

Derek Taye at Halifax's Dalhousie University says courses are delivered via a "blended learning" model mixing offline with online.

In a 14-week course, there would be three of four concentrated days in an actual classroom in Halifax, Toronto, Ottawa, Calgary or Vancouver.

Online parts include real-time lectures via video, discussion forums and live classes.

Students use live streaming to ask questions other students and professors can hear and respond to, along with IM chat and blog-style discussions.

The key is to make the experience invisible.

"(Students) aren't here to figure out computers, they're here to learn," Taye says.

Hot courses

- The most popular online courses in Halifax tend to be ones that are basic prerequisites to further offline study, such as math.
- In Toronto, business courses like accounting and project management rule the online world.
- Ottawa universities have popular online courses in food microbiology and food quality and safety.
- In Calgary, tourism-related courses like event management do well while Edmonton offers many information technology programs.
- In Vancouver, creative classes such as writing are hot.

Keeping it cutting edge

Derek Taye says while Dalhousie University keeps its online learning at the cutting edge of technology, there needs to be a balance with what professors and students are technically capable of doing.

As "digital natives" move through the system, they will push deeper into the online possibilities.

Online classroom programs such as Wimba, Elluminate or WebEx and Flash bring lessons alive, while Adobe e-learning suites focus on demonstrating computer concepts. Professors can use tablet PCs to write out solutions to problems live online with a virtual chalk board.

Some classes are synchronous, or in real time, while others are asynchronous, or on the student's time.

JON TATTRIE

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Online ed fits everyone

- Skills required for success same as in traditional classrooms
- Time management important to maximizing your experience

RAF BRUSILOW
METRO CANADA

Afraid your personality won't fit the world of online learning? Don't worry, experts say, online education doesn't require any special skills you wouldn't already use in a regular classroom.

Tricia Donovan is director of eCampusAlberta, a consortium of 15 publicly funded colleges and technical institutes in Alberta offering online courses and programs. She says the common idea that online learners have to be more driven and self-sufficient than in-class learners because of the technical requirements is a myth.

"A lot of the literature will say that people who are self-motivated and driven fit best into online learning but our experience is that motivation itself is enough for any educational program. If you can search the web you have all the technical ability required to complete an online education," Donovan said.

If there is a personality trait that gives you an advantage, it's time management. Dr. Keith Hampson, director of digital education strategies at Ryerson University's G. Raymond Chang School, says the lack of scheduled in-class work periods means online students often need to manage time well.

"Most online courses are set up so that students can have a great deal of control over when they do work, by and large that is a benefit, but it can also be a challenge. In the classroom, a schedule is provided for you — online, some students find they need to develop a schedule themselves," Hampson said.

ISTOCK

▶ Time management skills are an important factor in the success of your online learning experience.

Do you have what it takes?

Online courses involve a lot more idea-sharing than a classroom setting. "The web experience can in many ways be more exploratory than what most people get in class — online courses have very strong application to the way business actually works today," said Edward Carson, associate director of the University of Toronto's School of Continuing Studies. RAF BRUSILOW

Before you commit

Test it out: Most reputable online programs will let you try out a class or two to see if you like what you see and then cancel with a full refund if you don't — check each school's policies first, though.

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‘It was really convenient’

Distance education gets thumbs up from two students ◆ Discipline to complete course work key to success

RICHARD WOODBURY
METRO CANADA

Before taking a course through distance education, 23-year-old Jessica Lu had reservations.

“I never thought distance education was something that would work for me,” says the Vancouver resident who graduated from the University of British Columbia this spring with a degree in biology.

Lu had a “very traditional sense of learning” with a professor and a lecture. When an elective class she wanted to take was full, distance education became the only option.

“I liked how it was really convenient,” says Lu.

With large breaks in her schedule between classes, she used that time to complete two courses through distance education.

For 25-year-old Leigh Fuller, she felt distance education would be “a good move to accelerate her career.”

When she began pursuing a project management certificate from Algonquin College in Ottawa in the spring of 2009, she had a full-time job as an administrative assistant and was also riding and training horses on the side.

“One thing that can pretty much guarantee you won’t be successful at it is if you’re not capable of having the discipline to sit down and actually do the work yourself without anyone encouraging you,” she says.

Fuller feels distance education is a good fit for busy people and shy people who may not enjoy being in the classroom.

The distance education experience has been positive for Lu, but she would have liked for the tests to have included more short answer type questions rather than being strictly multiple choice.

Fuller doesn’t have any complaints.

“I would do it again, well I am,” she says with a chuckle.

SUBMITTED

▶ Leigh Fuller took distance education courses to accelerate her career.

SUBMITTED

▶ Jessica Lu ended up in an online education setting when the traditional lecture course she wanted was full.

60 seconds

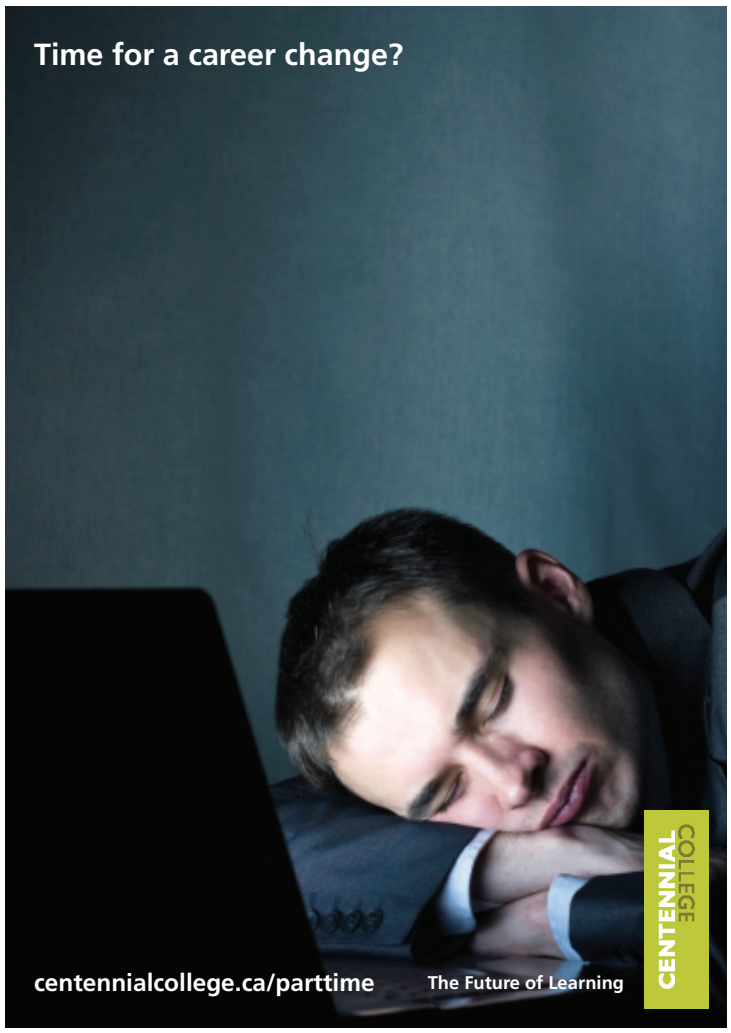
LEIGH FULLER

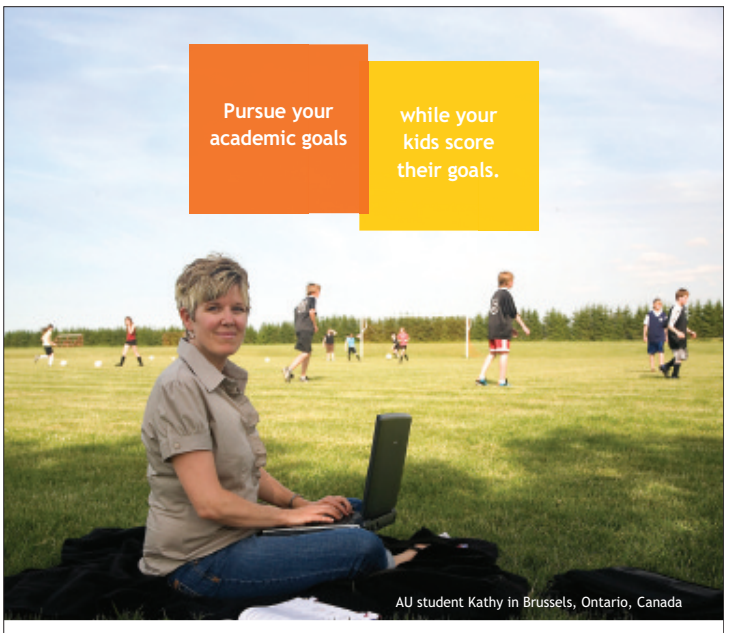
Last song played on iPod? Lips of an Angel by Hinder
Cheesiest song on iPod? Kiss a Girl by Keith Urban
Favourite actor? Clive Owen
Favourite film? Kingdom of Heaven

60 seconds

JESSICA LU

Last song played on iTouch? Marionettes by The Zolas
Cheesiest song on iTouch? Ballads by Chicago and Lionel Richie
Favourite actor? Jim Parsons
Favourite film? Singin’ in the Rain





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Set yourself a work schedule

It's tempting to let online work slide, but cramming won't work

JON TATTRIE
METRO CANADA

With no professor watching over you or other students hanging out to discuss Philosophy 101, online learning requires strong internal discipline to stay the course.

Peggy Watts, director of distance learning at Halifax's Mount Saint Vincent University, says it can be tempting to let work slide.

"People have to set themselves a schedule," she says. "Students should be watching the lectures every week and keeping up with the work. The person who leaves them all to the night before the midterm is not going to do very well."

"It's really important to establish relationships with other students."
PEGGY WATTS, MSVU

For extra motivation, email, Skype or telephone your professor when you don't understand something. That personal relationship will keep you on your toes.

Lorna Prediger works at the University of Calgary's department of continuing education and is also an online student. She says students who miss real classes will likely skip virtual ones, too.

The live courses are an important chance to connect with students and professors, she says.

In between those, professors set regular deadlines for group discussions and assignments. Stick to them, Prediger advises, and enjoy the benefits of attending class when it works for you.

How to hang out online

Old-school distance learning meant you had little contact with other students, but now you can virtually be best buddies with classmates in Cape Breton or Toronto.

Course-management programs like Moodle and Blackboard are popular open-source systems where students and professors can meet to exchange notes and receive feedback.

Students can also friend-up fellow students on Facebook, follow each other on Twitter and set Skype study dates to enhance the sense of a learning community.

JON TATTRIE

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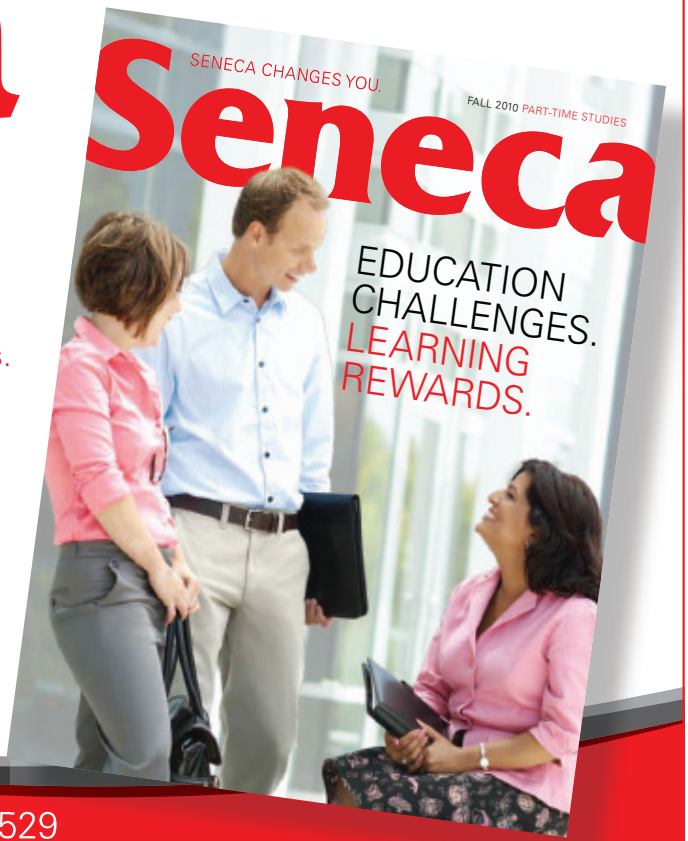


For more information call 416.491-5050, ext. 2529 or visit senecac.on.ca/ce

Ask the right questions before upgrading skills

Research well: Experts caution

RICHARD WOODBURY
METRO CANADA

For people looking to upgrade their business skills, plenty of distance education opportunities are available through learning institutions across Canada.

The subjects are limitless and could include business plans, writing skills and small business marketing.

But distance learning isn't for everybody, cautions the dean of the School of Part-time Studies at Algonquin College in Ottawa.

"Number one: They've got to make sure that they're disciplined enough to be successful in the online world," says Linda Rees.

"Different institutions have different characteristics."
JEFF MILLER,
UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Just like in the classroom, distance education requires lots of reading, researching, writing and test-taking.

With institutions across Canada offering distance education, it's important students do research to find the right fit.

"Is there a facilitator?" asks Colla Jean MacDonald, a professor and distance learning expert at the University of Ottawa.

She says it's important that courses have somebody to whom the students can turn to for assistance.

Students should also find out if the course can be applied towards a future diploma or degree.

"Different institutions have different characteristics," says Jeff Miller, the senior manager of distance learning at the University of British Columbia.

To make the most of one's distance education experience, students must ask the right questions before the experience begins.

ISTOCK

▶ Surgical Care in International Health is a popular distance education course.

A wealth of choice

RAF BRUSILOW
METRO CANADA

Canadian schools offer a well-rounded mix of online courses in just about any subject. Here are a few online courses and programs around the country that might catch your interest.

Toronto

• Taking Off in Travel (Humber College): An overview of the basics of the travel industry and what it takes to start a career. Case studies involving international travel, niche travel, group travel and conventions as well as a look at all types of travel and accommodations. Visit onlinelearning.humber.ca.

Vancouver

• Surgical Care in International Health (University of British Columbia): A cutting-edge course focusing on the planning and execution of surgery in low- and middle-income places of need around the world. Learn how to meet the burden of unmet surgical needs and how to orchestrate a professional response around the world. Visit olt.ubc.ca.

Halifax

• Certificate in Police Leadership (Dalhousie University): A program that trains supervisors and managers in the police force, particularly people who want to take their police career to a management level. The well-regarded program counts people in the RCMP and Provincial Police in Ontario and Quebec amongst its graduates. Visit collegeofcontinuinged.dal.ca.

Ottawa

• Creative Writing (Algonquin College): An eight-course program looking at the features of writing, including the structure of language and aesthetic criticism concepts. Emphasis placed on practical, goal-oriented work and developing your own writing style. Visit algonquincollege.com.

Edmonton

• Arts and Cultural Management (Grant MacEwan University): A program that teaches marketing, financial management, communications and advocacy in the art world. Offered through eCampusAlberta.ca.

Calgary

• Human Resource Management Certificate (University of Calgary): Teaches essential skills for staffing, employee and labour relations, compensation and health and safety. Suitable for people starting a career or HR professionals who want to expand their knowledge and skills. Visit conted.ucalgary.ca.

4 sports

Sports in brief

1 Shaquille O'Neal is reportedly in talks with the Boston Celtics.

2 Ryan Howard has gone on the DL after hurting his left ankle.

3 A botched surgery nearly killed Jacques Demers, the former NHL coach said in an interview.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Heat, Celts will meet in opener

The NBA will open its season with a battle of Big Threes, then offer up the new-look Miami Heat against Kobe Bryant and the defending champion Los Angeles Lakers on Christmas Day.

The Heat will debut their all-star trio of Dwyane Wade, LeBron James and Chris Bosh at Boston Oct. 26 against the defending Eastern Conference champion Celtics, who are led by their veteran group of Paul Pierce, Kevin Garnett and Ray Allen.

The Lakers will host Houston in the other opening-night game, the NBA announced yesterday.

The Christmas schedule will again feature five games, highlighted by the return of the Heat-Lakers matchup that was regularly played Dec. 25 after Los Angeles traded Shaquille O'Neal to Miami in 2004.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports in brief

Top-seeded Nestor loses

TENNIS. The top-seeded duo of Canadian Daniel Nestor and Serbian partner Nenad Zimonjic lost its opening match at the Legg Mason Tennis Classic yesterday.

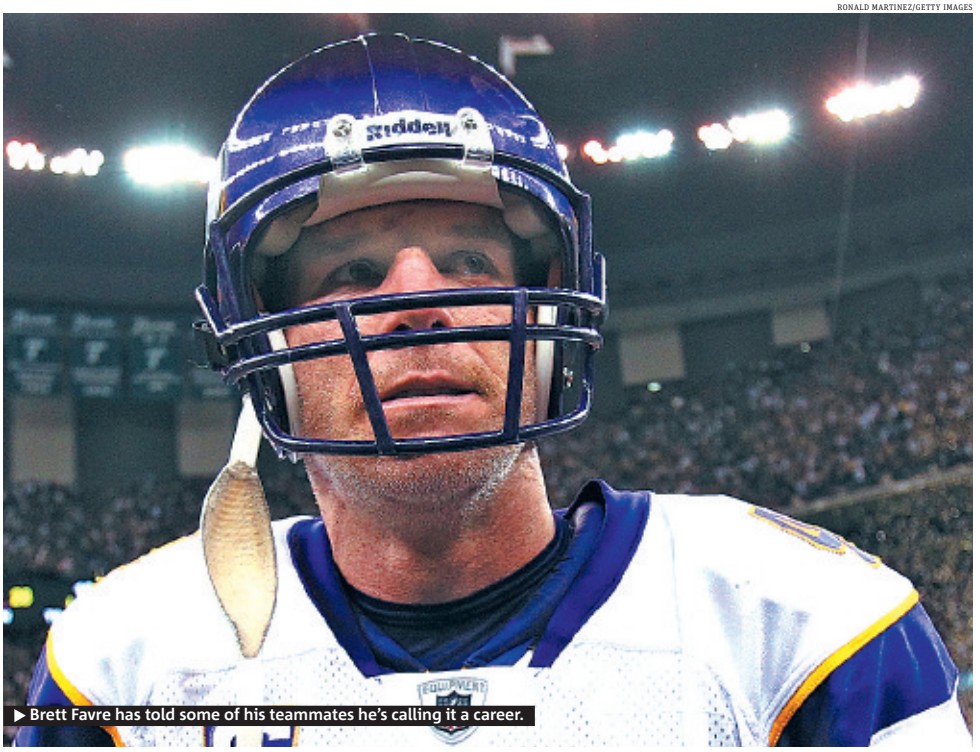
Nestor, of Toronto, and Zimonjic dropped a 6-4, 4-6, 10-8 decision to the unseeded Czech team of Tomas Berdych and Radek Stepanek.

Deal lets Jolly avoid trial

NFL. Suspended Green Bay Packers defensive end Johnny Jolly made a deal with prosecutors yesterday to avoid trial on a felony drug charge and have the case against him dismissed if he stays out of trouble for the next year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RONALD MARTINEZ/GETTY IMAGES



▶ Brett Favre has told some of his teammates he's calling it a career.

Game over for Favre?

▶ Vikings teammates say quarterback told them he's done with football
▶ Team still holding out hope he will return for a 20th NFL season

Even though Brett Favre has told some of his teammates he's calling it a career, the Minnesota Vikings are hoping for one last change of heart from the quarterback who just can't stay retired.

Favre has started to contact teammates and Vikings officials to say he will not return for a 20th NFL season, tight end Visanthe Shiancoe said last night.

"He told a couple guys on our team he's going to retire," Shiancoe said after practice. "He hasn't told me yet. I'm going to check my phone right now, but it hasn't been said publicly yet so I don't know what to believe."

Earlier yesterday, a person with knowledge of the situation told The Associated Press that the 40-year-old Favre contacted the Vikings to say he wouldn't return this season because his injured left ankle is not responding as well to surgery and rehabilitation as he had hoped. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because no official announcements were made.

Coach Brad Childress said Favre had not told him directly that Favre plans to retire as of yesterday morning. The coach would not confirm Favre's status with the team, calling it a "fluid situation," and he was unavailable for comment after the evening practice.

"I'm not a big hearsay person," Childress said. "I gotta hear it from the horse's mouth."

As always with the former MVP, things could change. Favre and his agent, Bus Cook, did not return messages from The Associated Press.

"I plead the fifth on everything," defensive end Jared Allen said.

"I love Brett and he reserves the right to do what he wants to do. We obviously love him as a teammate. We'd like to have him back. But until it's official, I'll believe it when I see it."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Familiar story

Brett Favre has a history of changing his mind.

1 "I know I can play but I don't think I want to. It's been a great career for me, but it's over." — Favre on March 6, 2008, two days after retiring from the Packers. Plays next season for Jets.

2 "It's been a wonderful career, I couldn't ask for anything more ... It's time to leave."— Favre on Feb. 11, 2009, when he announces his second retirement. He later "unretires" to play for the Vikings

Draw puts TFC through

TFC	MOTAGUA
2	2

Dwayne De Rosario and Chad Barrett scored as Toronto FC advanced to the group stage of the CONCACAF Champions League with a 2-2 tie with Club Deportivo Motagua last night.

Toronto advanced with a 3-2 aggregate score in the two-game series. Toronto won the opening game 1-0 last week at home on a goal from Barrett.

Former Toronto midfielder Amado Guevara scored both goals for Motagua.

It was a hard-fought result for the visitors, who had to overcome humid conditions in Tegucigalpa as well as travel problems.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jays' bats put hurt on Yanks

- Toronto gets four home runs, A-Rod has none
- Romero allows only two hits as he picks up win

BLUE JAYS	YANKEES
8	2

NICK LAHAM/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Vernon Wells celebrates a home run last night.

Ricky Romero baffled the suddenly slumping New York Yankees for the second time this season, and the free-swinging Toronto Blue Jays belted four more home runs in an 8-2 romp last night.

Alex Rodriguez failed to hit homer No. 600 for the 12th consecutive game, extending the longest stretch before reaching the milestone of the six players to have done it. New York's third baseman went 0 for 3 with a strikeout, and is 9 for 46 since his last home run July 22.

The Yankees' could have used a big hit, too. They have lost three straight for the first time since June 16-19 and now find themselves peering over at Tampa Bay atop the AL East.

Romero (9-7) worked quickly and efficiently against baseball's highest-scoring team, allowing just two hits — a two-run homer by Mark Teixeira in the first and an infield single by Marcus Thames in the fifth.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Scoreboard

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

AL EAST

	W	L	Pct	GB
TAMPA BAY	66	39	.629	-
NEW YORK	66	40	.623	0.5
BOSTON	61	46	.570	6.5
TORONTO	56	51	.523	11
BALTIMORE	33	73	.311	33.5

AL CENTRAL

	W	L	Pct	GB
CHICAGO	60	46	.566	-
MINNESOTA	59	47	.557	1
DETROIT	53	53	.500	7
KANSAS CITY	45	61	.425	15
CLEVELAND	45	62	.421	15.5

AL WEST

	W	L	Pct	GB
TEXAS	61	44	.581	-
OAKLAND	53	52	.505	8
LOS ANGELES	54	54	.500	8.5
SEATTLE	39	67	.368	22.5

Yesterday's AL results

Toronto 8 N.Y. Yankees 2
Chicago White Sox 12 Detroit 2
Detroit 7 Chicago White Sox 1
Baltimore 6 L.A. Angels 3
Boston 3 Cleveland 1
Minnesota at Tampa Bay
Kansas City at Oakland
Texas at Seattle

Today's AL games

Toronto at N.Y. Yankees, 1:05 p.m.
Kansas City at Oakland, 3:35 p.m.
Chicago at Detroit, 7:05 p.m.
L.A. Angels at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m.
Cleveland at Boston, 7:10 p.m.
Minnesota at Tampa Bay, 7:10 p.m.
Texas at Seattle, 10:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

NL EAST

	W	L	Pct	GB
ATLANTA	60	46	.566	-
PHILADELPHIA	58	48	.547	2
NEW YORK	54	53	.505	6.5
FLORIDA	53	53	.500	7
WASHINGTON	47	59	.443	13

NL CENTRAL

	W	L	Pct	GB
CINCINNATI	60	47	.561	-
ST. LOUIS	59	47	.557	0.5
MILWAUKEE	49	58	.458	11
HOUSTON	46	59	.438	13
CHICAGO	46	60	.434	13.5
PITTSBURGH	36	69	.343	23

NL WEST

	W	L	Pct	GB
SAN DIEGO	62	42	.596	-
SAN FRANCISCO	61	45	.575	2
COLORADO	55	50	.524	7.5
LOS ANGELES	54	52	.509	9
ARIZONA	39	67	.368	24

Yesterday's NL results

N.Y. Mets 3 Atlanta 2
Philadelphia 6 Florida 1
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh
Milwaukee at Chicago Cubs
Houston at St. Louis
San Francisco at Colorado
Washington at Arizona
San Diego at L.A. Dodgers

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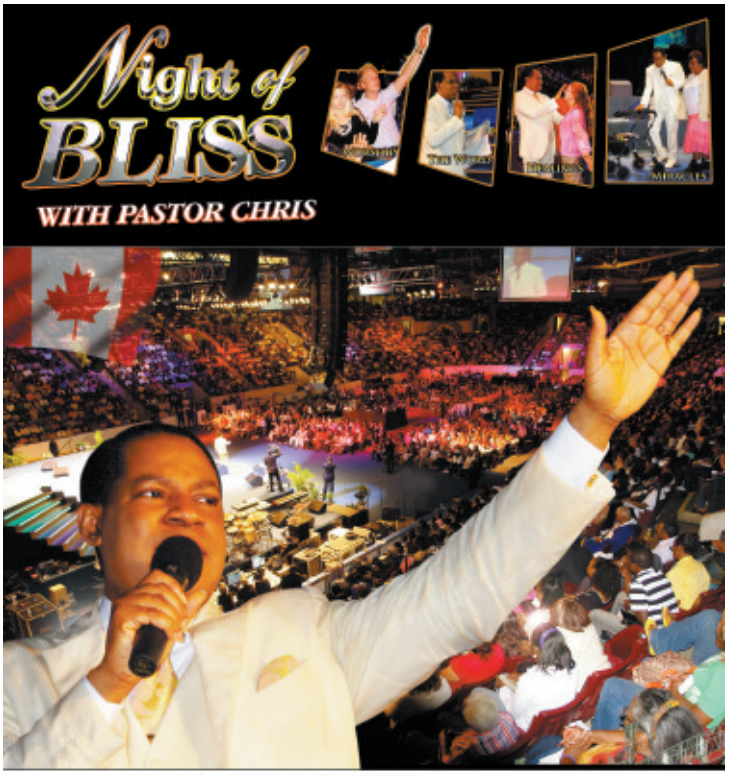

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TARA WALTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Argos linebacker Willie Pile says his team needs to play complete 60-minute games.

Argos learn from loss

In wake of blowout, Argos captain preaches importance of playing four good quarters Recent win streak hid over-reliance on tailback Cory Boyd

In Willie Pile's mind, there's no such thing as a good loss.

But the Toronto Argonauts captain says two valuable lessons he and his teammates can take from Thursday's lopsided 41-10 defeat to the Grey Cup-champion Montreal Alouettes are the importance of playing a complete 60-minute game and not falling behind and having to rely on a fourth-quarter comeback to gain a victory.

"We realize we have a ways to go to develop that identity we want to have as a physical team, a team that's not going to miss tackles, not going to make mental errors and finish drives on defence, offence and special teams," Pile said following yesterday's practice.

"It just so happens we learned this lesson via a loss."

An upstart Toronto squad headed to Montreal riding a three-game win streak. What's more, the Argos were brimming with confidence after successfully rallying from a fourth-quarter deficit for the win all three times.

Toronto started well against Montreal, leading 10-7 in the second quarter before the home team rallied for the 17-10 halftime advantage. The Als took over in the second half, outscoring the Argos 24-0.

"We have certain things we're good at, we just have to perfect those and stay away from the things we're not so good at," Pile said. "Right now, as a defence, we know we need to work on our tackling and create big plays on special teams. That's our goal and I'm sure the offensive guys are saying the same things."

Montreal's offence was certainly firing on all cylinders, rolling up 566 yards to 227 for Toronto. Quarterback Anthony Calvillo was a stellar 30-of-36 passing for 394 yards and two TDs while tailback Avon Cobourne rushed for 115 yards and two TDs while adding 116 yards receiving.

"You learn you have to play a full four quarters, you learn you can't make mistakes and every play can turn into a big play because they don't make mistakes," Toronto head coach Jim Barker said of facing the Als.

"They're very proficient in what they do and that's where we have to get to as to where we're that proficient for four quarters, not for just one half."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

LeBron's ad aims for peace with Akronites

LeBron James has extended an olive branch to his Ohio hometown in the form of a full-page newspaper ad, days before making his first public appearance in Akron since leaving for the Miami Heat.

"Akron is my home, and the central focus of my life," James wrote in yesterday's Akron Beacon Journal. "It's where I started, and it's where I will always come back to."

Conspicuously absent from the ad is any mention of Cleveland, home of the Cavaliers, the team James famously dumped in a much-maligned ESPN television special last month. The ad features photographs of James at his annual charity bike-a-thon, where he hands out hundreds of bicycles and joins a mile-long ride through downtown Akron. Despite speculation that James might skip the event, he has said he plans to show up Saturday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Baseball. O's skip

▶ Buck Showalter

GAIL BURTON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Orioles turn to third manager of 2010 season

Buck Showalter is back as a major league manager, and before his Orioles debut last night against the Los Angeles Angels, Showalter said: "Believe me, if there's some adjustments to be made, I won't be overly cautious."

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2010 Ram 1500 Crew Cab Laramie shown‡

2010 RAM 1500 QUAD CAB SXT 4X4

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- Vehicle Information Centre with trip computer/temperature/compass
- Remote Keyless Entry • 20" Aluminum chrome-clad wheels • Class IV receiver hitch
- Uconnect phone with voice command

NO CHARGE HEMI® ENGINE

2010 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT shown‡

2010 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN CANADA VALUE PACKAGE

CANADA'S BEST SELLING MINIVAN

- 3.3L Flex Fuel V6 engine with automatic transmission • 4-wheel disc brakes with ABS • Electronic Stability Program (ESP™) with all-speed traction control • Advanced multistage front air bags & side-curtain air bags • Power front windows and locks

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2010 GRAND CARAVAN SE WITH STOW 'N GO®

- Second row power windows and quarter vented windows
- 17" Aluminum wheels
- Leather wrapped steering wheel and shift knob
- Steering wheel mounted audio controls

NO CHARGE SE PLUS GROUP PACKAGE

2010 Dodge Journey R/T shown‡

2010 DODGE JOURNEY SE CANADA VALUE PACKAGE

CANADA'S #1 SELLING CROSSOVER^

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2010 JOURNEY SXT GROUP PACKAGE

- Third row 50/50 split fold reclining seats
- Rear temperature control
- Second row 40/60 Tilt 'n Slide™ seat – easy entry system

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+Your local retailer may charge additional fees for administration/pre-delivery that can range from $0 to $1,098 and anti-theft/safety products that can range from $0 to $1,298. Charges may vary by retailer.

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VISIT YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD CHRYSLER, JEEP®, DODGE, RAM RETAILER. Dodge.ca/Offers

DODGE CARAVAN KIDS

SIRIUS SATELLITE RADIO

Wise customers read the fine print: ♦, *, **, †, ±, ‡, § Canada's Hottest Long Weekend of the Year Event offers apply to retail deliveries of selected new and unused models purchased between August 4, 2010 and August 7, 2010 from participating retailers. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Offers subject to change and may be extended without notice. See participating retailer for complete details and conditions. ♦No Purchase Necessary. Contest opens August 4, 2010 @ 9:00AM ET and closes 11:59 PM ET August 7, 2010. One (1) Grand Prize available to be won, consisting of a cheque for the total purchase price of the Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge or Ram vehicle purchased. Random Draw will be held on August 17, 2010 in Oakville, ON. Must be a resident of Ontario, of the age of majority with a valid Ontario driver's licence. Odds of winning depend on the total number of eligible entries received. Correct answer to mathematical skill-testing question required. Limit of one (1) entry per person. For complete contest rules, including no purchase means of entry go to: https://forms.chryslercanada.ca/sammershallpayment. ♦♦ $25,999 Purchase Price applies to 2010 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT (24A+AGP) only and includes $8,250 Consumer Cash, $500 Dealer Performance Cash and $1,250 Freight, Air Tax, Tire Levy and OMVIC Fee. Taxes excluded. Other retailer charges may apply. Dealer may sell for less. *Consumer Cash Discounts are offered on most new 2009/2010 vehicles and are manufacturer-to-retailer incentives, which are deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. See your retailer for complete details. †0% purchase financing for 36 months available to qualified customers on approved credit through Royal Bank of Canada, Scotiabank, TD Financing Services and GMAC on most 2010 Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge and Ram models, except Challenger, Caliber Canada Value Package and SE Plus, Grand Caravan Canada Value Package and SE Plus, Grand Caravan Canada Value Package and Cargo Van, Sprinter and Ram Chassis Cab. Example: 2010 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (24A+AGP) 2010 Dodge Journey SE Canada Value Package (22F) with a Purchase Price of $25,999/$19,999 financed at 0% for 36 months equals monthly payments of $722.19/$555.52; cost of borrowing of $0 and a total obligation of $25,999/$19,999. Pricing includes freight and air tax, tire levy and OMVIC fee. Taxes and other retailer charges may apply. Not all buyers will qualify. Other rates and terms available. ‡Based on financing a 2010 Ram 1500 Crew Cab Laramie (29D+AGP) with a Purchase Price of $36,999 financed at 2.75% Variable Prime Rate over 84 months on approved credit through TD Financing Services or Royal Bank of Canada, compared to financing a 2010 Ram 1500 Crew Cab SLT (29D+AGP) with a Purchase Price of $34,999 financed at 2.75% Variable Prime Rate over 84 months. Weekly payment based on 52 weeks/year. Offer valid from August 4 to August 7, 2010 (the "Offer Period") to residents of Canada (excluding Quebec) who purchase or lease a new 2010 Ram 1500 Crew Cab Laramie (29D+AGP) or 2010 Ram 1500 Crew Cab Laramie (29D+AGP) Value Package (29E) from a participating retailer. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Offer may be changed or withdrawn at any time without notice. Offer not available for fleet, government or commercial purchasers. Offer not available in conjunction with certain other offers. Dealer may sell for less. See your retailer for complete details. ^Based on calendar year 2009 Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge and Ram retail sales. ^^Based on calendar year market share gain. ~Based on January through December 2009 R.L. Polk sales data registrations. ~SIRIUS and the dog logo are registered trademarks of SIRIUS Satellite Radio Inc. ~Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

▶ The 2010 Nissan Altima Hybrid features a refreshed front grille and 16-inch alloy wheels.

Altima Hybrid sedan best of both worlds

If you don't fancy full-on hybrids like Toyota Prius and Honda Insight, Nissan offers a great alternative Model easy and pleasant to drive

LORNE DRURY
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

Hop in, push the starter button and your Nissan Altima Hybrid is ready to go.

It's as simple as that and not nearly the complicated process that many might expect if you are not educated in the operation of a gas-electric hybrid vehicle.

Unlike the Toyota Prius and Honda Insight, which are designed from the ground up as hybrids, the Altima Hybrid is a standard four-door Altima sedan, outfitted with a hybrid power train.

Nissan says it set out to make the Altima one of the best performing large front-wheel drive sedans on the market. The hybrid version adds better fuel economy and fewer emissions to produce a more environmentally friendly vehicle.

With few changes from the 2009 model, the 2010 Altima Hybrid is really an easy and pleasant vehicle to drive. It has a well-designed, comfortable interior and, for 2010, offers an optional Leather Tech Package ($4,900) that includes a number of features including leather seats, Bose audio system and rear view monitor.

Also new for this model year is a refreshed front fascia and grille, newly styled 16-inch alloy wheels and standard folding mirrors with integrated turn signals.

The Altima Hybrid power train starts with Nissan's tried and true 2.5-litre four-cylinder gasoline engine. It is combined with an electric motor, producing a hybrid system power rating of 198 hp, and it can travel an estimated 1,300 km between fill-ups.

The specs

2010 NISSAN ALTIMA HYBRID

- **VEHICLE TYPE** Four-door sedan
- **PRICE** from $33, 398
- **ENGINE** 2.5-litre DOHC 16-valve in-line four-cylinder engine (158 hp, 162 lb/ft of torque) combined with a 40 hp electric motor
- **FUEL ECONOMY** 5.6L/100 km city and 5.9L/100 km highway

5 drive

Up and down

GPS Jedi
Owners of TomTom navigation systems can now be guided by the greatest Jedi of them all — Yoda — thanks to a downloadable voice skin.

Car arguments
According to a new survey, getting lost is the biggest cause of arguments in cars. More than 60 per cent of the people questioned in the survey for British motoring retailer Halfords, said arguments had erupted because of their partner's rubbish navigation.

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THE BIMMER AND A FEW MAD MEN

Like a lot of folks, my favourite television series at the moment is Mad Men. I'm not sure I like it because it's such a fascinating portrait of "ad agency" professionals operating in New York city in the early 1960s, or because I simply pine for the days when a man could smoke and drink at the office and had a secretary to type letters and fetch things.

And now I have another reason to like Mad Men — the advertising.

Last week, we watched the premiere episode of season four, and like the two previous season premieres, it featured a special advertising "vignette" by the series' title sponsor, BMW.

The vignette featured Martin Puris talking casually about the ad he created for the original 5 Series. Puris was the "creative" half of Ammirati Puris (BMW's first U.S. ad agency), and the man who came up with that iconic BMW slogan, "The Ultimate Driving Machine."

After his talk, they ran that historical 5 Series spot, followed by a new spot for the all-new 5 Series.

Brilliant. It told an intriguing part of BMW history, showed how consistent its engineering mission and marketing message has been through the years, informed viewers about a new model, and did it all in a manner that was totally Mad Men.

▶ The fourth season of Mad Men premiered along with a special ad vignette from BMW.

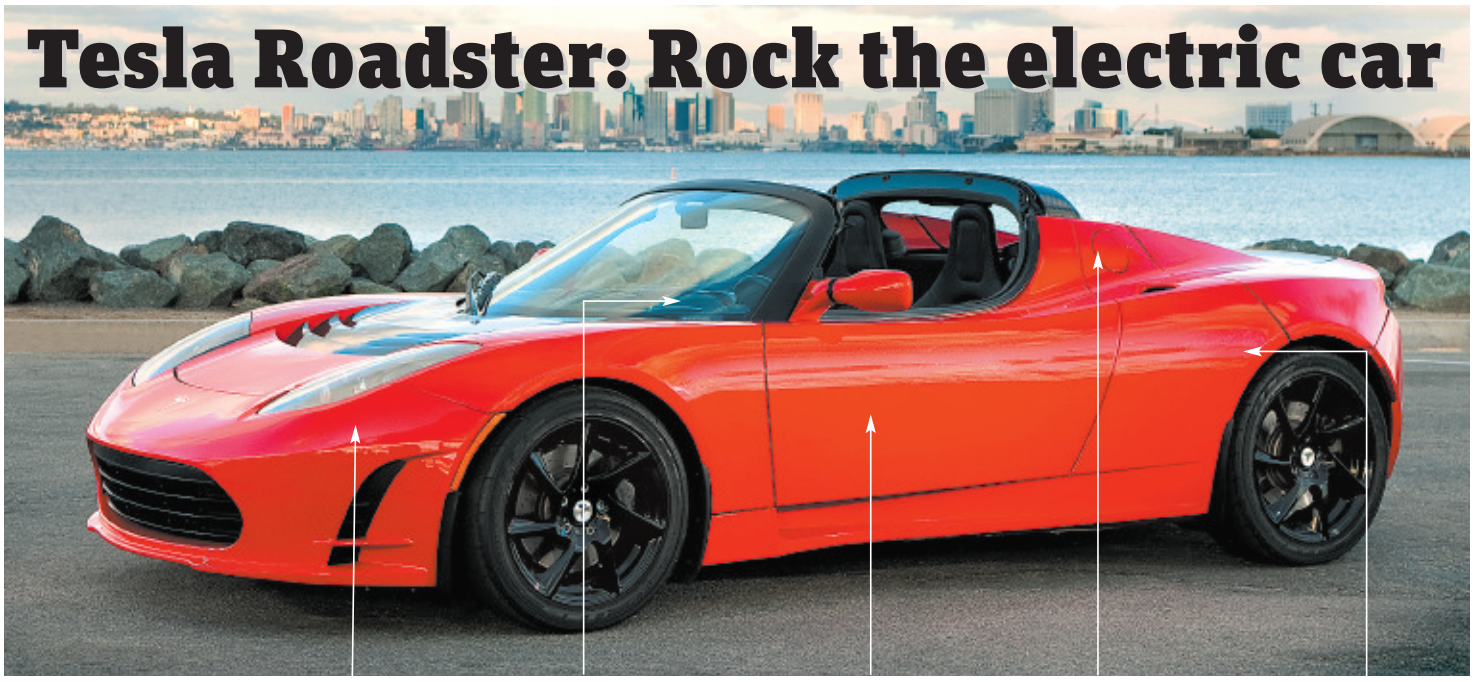
The idea to feature Puris in this ad, and in another Mad Men vignette three years ago came from Pat McKenna, manager, marketing communications and consumer events, BMW North America. During our recent telephone conversation, McKenna told me that viewers have responded well to BMW's "wink" to the Mad Men narrative.

BMW only hauls out custom creative during the season premieres. The custom ad for the second season premier actually featured Mad Men footage. "We pulled out 'new' technologies from Mad Men, like the rotary phone, slide projector, and the photocopy machine," said Pat.

"It was our way of taking the discussion to our current modern technologies, like our new diesel engines."

He added that, "BMW is very proud of our sponsorship of Mad Men" and that it gives the automaker the opportunity to both "celebrate our own advertising legacy, and pay a tribute to the craft… This is our homage, to Mad Men and to advertising."

Tesla Roadster: Rock the electric car



DREAM CAR

MIKE GOETZ
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

My brief fling with Tesla Roadster Sport was the closest I've come to living like a rock star. Everyone pointed, boys took pictures, female types glanced over and an Audi R8 V10 filled the rearview mirror for 10 klicks. The Roadster is the sole serial production "full electric" car you buy in North America. But the driving experience easily trumped the paparazzi experience — and even the green experience.

Forged in carbon fibre

EXTERIOR. Body styling and chassis derived from Lotus Elise. French-built carbon fibre body panels shipped to Lotus in England. Panels fitted to a fully aluminum monocoque chassis, built by Lotus to Tesla's specifications. Final assembly in California. On-board charger can be connected to any outlet in the world (adapter cords provided). Charge times based on outlet voltage and amperage.

Packed with electronics

INSIDE. No engine under the hood, but fully packed with electronics and radiators and air-con system. Cooling of batteries has priority. System will divert some cool air from cabin if necessary. With no gas engine noises, prevalent sound "at idle" is the gurgling of this cooling system. Bit tricky to place one's butt in the driver's seat. Once there, your legs stick straight out to the pedals. Small steering wheel requires some effort.

$147,300

The base price for the Tesla Roadster Sport. The math worked out to $166,670 with other add-on options on the test vehicle. So, far 30 units have been sold in Canada.

In company of lithium ion

CHARGING UP. Directly behind the rear seats you'll find the famous Tesla lithium-ion cell battery pack: 69 cells wired in parallel to create bricks; 99 bricks connected to create sheets; 11 sheets inserted into the pack housing; internally cooled; weighs 990 pounds; stores 56 kWh of electric energy; delivers up to 215kW of electric power; and gives the Tesla a range of 395 kms. Highest "energy density" in the industry.

Acceleration to infinity

DRIVE EXPERIENCE. The Tesla Sport will jump from zero to 60 mph in 3.7 seconds. But impressive as that sounds, it no way conveys what it feels like to keep the Tesla accelerating in anger toward the horizon. The prevalent sound is gear whine, not unlike a jet taking off. And with no gear changes or the slightest fall off in torque to interrupt the insane rate of thrust, it basically feels like, and sounds like, it would keep accelerating into infinity.

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Stuck in middle of nowhere? CAA app can be handy

iPhone tool can help roadside assistance to offer you a quick way out of a breakdown or emergency App can be downloaded from CAA website

Car broke down suddenly? Don't worry, now there's an app for that.

You're driving on the open road and enjoying the scenery with your family when suddenly, the warning light comes on and your car's temperature gauge skyrockets.

Or, you've just stopped to see a tourist attraction and now the car won't start. Vacationing by car can be a wonderful experience, but the best family road trip can quickly take a wrong turn if your vehicle breaks down. And nothing is more unnerving than breaking down in an unfamiliar area or in the middle of a busy highway far from home.

According to the British Columbia Automobile Association (BCAA), members use CAA/AAA services about 20,000 times per year while travelling outside across North America.

Now, no matter the distance from home, drivers anywhere in Canada and the U.S. can use the Canadian Automobile Association's (CAA) newest iPhone application — the CAA Roadside App, which launched recently and is free of charge.

"Having your vehicle break down miles from home is not only inconvenient, it can also leave travellers feeling helpless," says Richard Gaspar, BCAA's road assist contact centre manager.

"Vacationers are often driving in unfamiliar territory and it can be difficult to figure out exactly where you are. Some street signs are hard to read, or there may be no signs or mile markers at all to indicate where you're located."

Using GPS technology, the CAA Roadside App helps determine a motorist's breakdown location and automatically submits the coordinates to the nearest CAA/AAA call centre.

"To reach our members quickly, it's crucial that we collect key pieces of information about the breakdown," explains Gaspar. "The iPhone application asks a comprehensive series of questions to gather valuable information such as a specific address or detailed description of the location, vehicle and nature of the breakdown. This helps roadside assistance providers locate the motorist immediately and ensures the technician is well prepared for the roadside rescue."

And, if the motorist wants to speak to a roadside assistance service provider directly, they just need to tap their iPhone and the application will make the call.

To help travellers find a mechanic shop when they're in an unfamiliar area, the CAA Roadside App also provides locations of CAA/AAA approved auto repair shops nearby.

To download the new CAA Roadside App, go to: CAA.ca/mobile or visit the iTunes App Store and search for "CAA Roadside."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Before you hit the road

Leave your itinerary (route, time schedule, accommodations) with a family member or friend.

Carry a fully charged cellphone and back up battery. Make sure you have the car charger with you.

Get a thorough tune-up on your vehicle before you head out to avoid a breakdown and being stranded in an unfamiliar area.

Bring an emergency kit, which includes warning triangles and a few light tools such as screwdrivers, a hammer, an adjustable wrench, pliers, a flashlight, a can of WD-40 and a rag.

Keep one or more reflective safety vests inside the cab of the vehicle at all times.

The Ford F-150.

Workhorse turns hip

EMMA E. FORREST
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

Its rugged appeal extended to drivers who weren't tree surgeons

A decade ago, trucks got trendy. At the start of the millennium, excess was in — everyone wanted to drive SUVs and 4x4s and footballers and rappers had to have Hummers. Suddenly the gigantic Ford F150 was the hottest car in the U.S.

Previously the territory of rednecks and builders, pick ups benefited from low, commercial vehicle tax and were cheaper than most SUVs. Then they got a makeover; double cabs — pick-ups with front and rear seats — were restyled to look like space age Tonka toys.

These utilitarian, macho vehicles became a lifestyle choice for drivers around the world. They were a great option for builders and electricians who would no longer need a second, family car, and their rugged appeal extended to drivers who weren't tree surgeons.

You could bling them up with chrome wing mirrors, petrol caps and bars and they affirmed their macho intent with model names that declared them an Outlaw, Intimidator, Barbarian and Warrior.

Sales of double cabs worldwide peaked around 2007, but the pick-up took a hit with the global economic meltdown along with other new, and especially, big cars.

So where are they now? It's one segment that's bouncing back despite their potentially unpopular size — the big players have all had recent facelifts and their economy improved. Global leader is the Mitsubishi L200 or Triton. The 1,000,000th one was built in Thailand in late 2007 and sales are going well globally, especially in Thailand and Australia.

The lifestyle variants of the L200 remains the growth area since their introduction in 2001 with the '4Life' option, and options continue to increase, from fancy leather seats to new chrome extras.

And the tax rates are still great. So it looks like they're tempting people who want an affordable alternative to an SUV or just fancy these cars' beefy good looks.

New wheels for Edge

The 2011 Ford Edge features four new wheel designs, including 18- and 20-inch wheels for Edge SEL and Edge Limited, and the class-exclusive 22-inch wheels that highlight the 2011 Ford Edge Sport.

FROM CARGUIDE

Audi SUVs on top in study

The only two sport-utility vehicles Audi offers, the Audi Q5 and the Audi Q7, both earned top rankings in their luxury Crossover/SUV categories in a newly released J.D. Power and Associates study. FROM CARGUIDE

UVO bows to command

- Kia's in-car voice-recognition can understand over 1,600 commands
- System comprehends two voices

PHOTO COURTESY KIA

▶ Kia has developed a voice-recognition system named UVO.

DRIVING FORCE

JIL McINTOSH
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

It's becoming easier to talk to your car. Voice-activated controls, which allow you to operate such devices as stereo or navigation system by telling them what to do, are now simpler thanks to features such as Kia's UVO.

UVO, meaning "Your Voice," is based on Microsoft's Windows Embedded Auto software and allows users to give simple, quick voice commands without going through menus or remembering specific wording. It will be introduced in upcoming new Kia models.

"There are over 1,600 commands, and it's a very smart voice recognition system," says Reg Furoy, bilingual training specialist for Kia Canada.

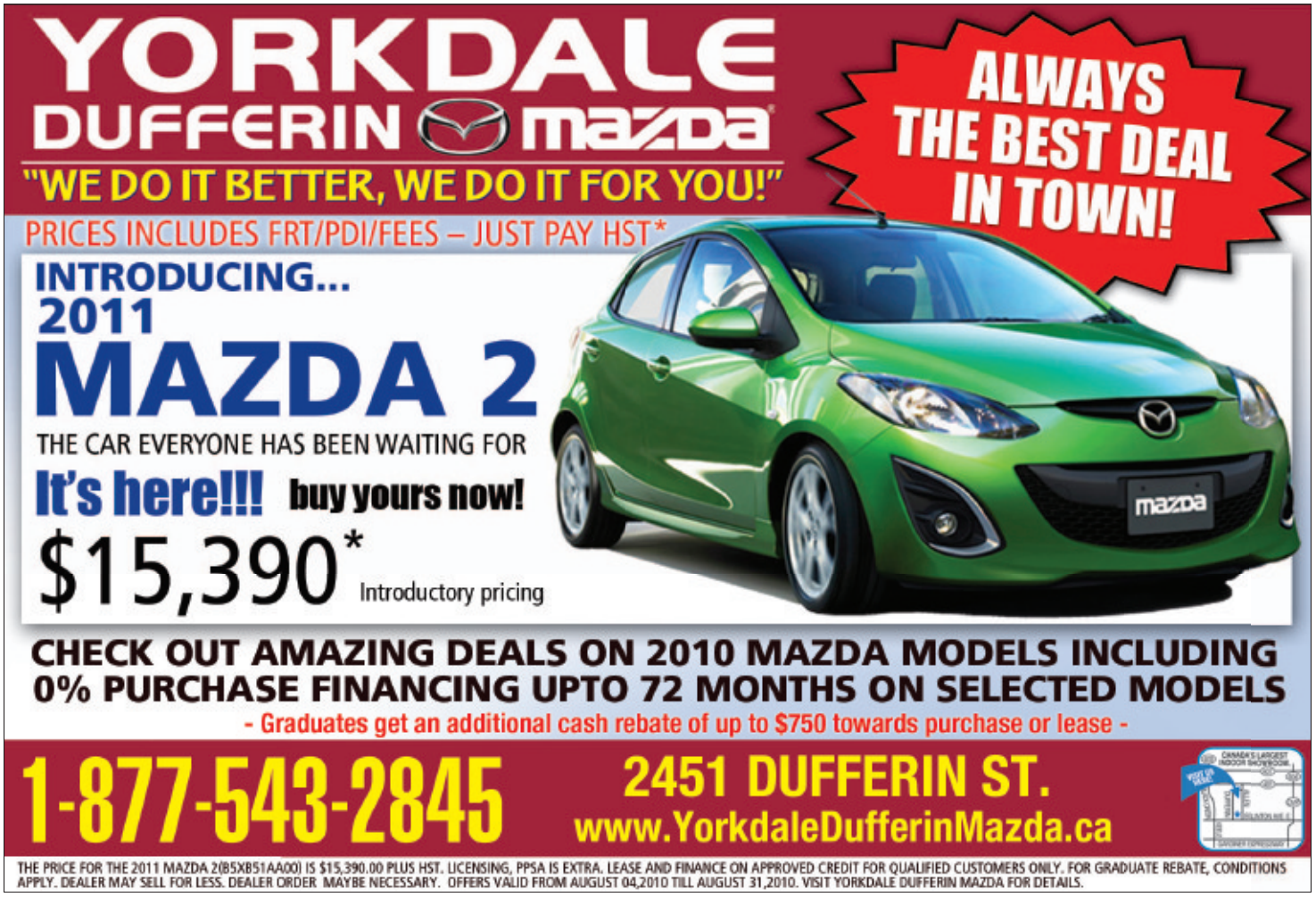
"It takes a look at the key words and matches what's closest. It links all the words together and takes a look at the sentence, so if you say 'play track two' or 'play Jukebox album six, track two,' it puts the words together and the software deciphers it."

Voice-activated systems were originally found only on very expensive vehicles. The user first had to train the system to recognize his or her voice, and had to memorize a specific sequence of commands. Newer systems now obey almost any voice, but still rely on the user knowing exactly what to say. By contrast, "What's playing?" is enough for UVO to access the audio system and determine the song. "If it's not sure (what you're asking), it will ask, 'Is this what you want?' and if you say no, it will come up with the second-best or third-best," Furoy says. "It will start training itself on the main commands that you use all the time. You won't use 1,600 different commands, but there are ones you'll use every day, and it will put them in priority when it has a choice, and go to those."

The system will also recognize two voices and set priorities for each one. If you're more likely to command the stereo, but your partner prefers to ask about the navigation system, UVO will go to that set of priority commands when it hears each voice.

Multilingual

- In North America, the system will also recognize Spanish, and Canadian French.



News in brief

i-MiEV going coast to coast

CANADIAN TOUR. Koji Soga, president and CEO of Mitsubishi Motor Sales of Canada, recently announced that on Aug. 17, the company's four-passenger electric, zero tailpipe emission car, the i-MiEV (Mitsubishi Innovative Electric Vehicle), based on the Japanese i-Car platform, will leave Signal Hill, in St John's, Nfld., on a 28-day coast-to-coast tour. After covering approximately 7,500 kilometres, the Clean Across Canada tour will arrive in Vancouver British Columbia on Sept. 13, 2010 at the annual EV 2010 Conference and Trade Show.

The i-MiEV features four important innovations that enhance the vehicle's capability: optimum packaging of occupants and EV systems, high capacity lithium-ion batteries, small efficient electric motor and the three-way charging system.

The long wheelbase and "wheels at corner" design provides comfortable seating for four adults, with reasonable luggage capacity behind the rear seat.

The i-MiEV will launch in late 2011 in the Canadian market. Pricing has not yet been set.

METRO

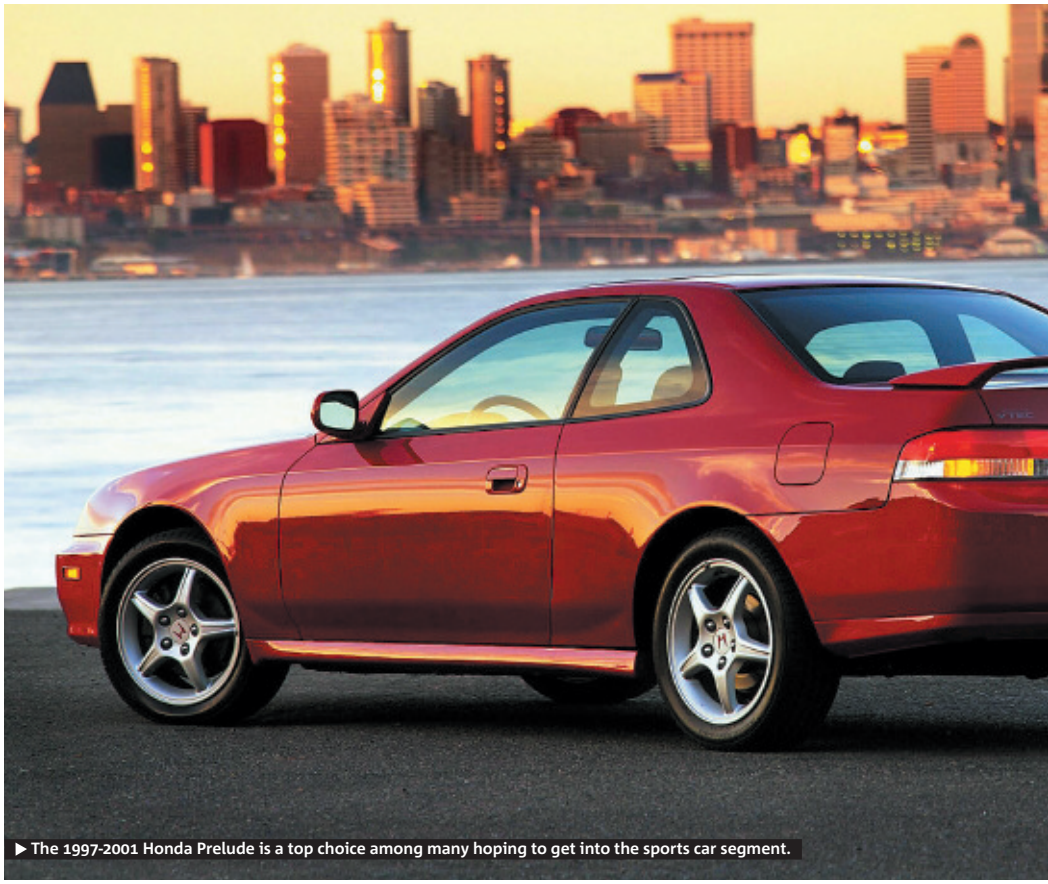
Cruze on sale in October

NEW MODEL. The all-new 2011 Chevrolet Cruze will arrive in Canadian dealerships this October, with a starting MSRP of just $14,995.

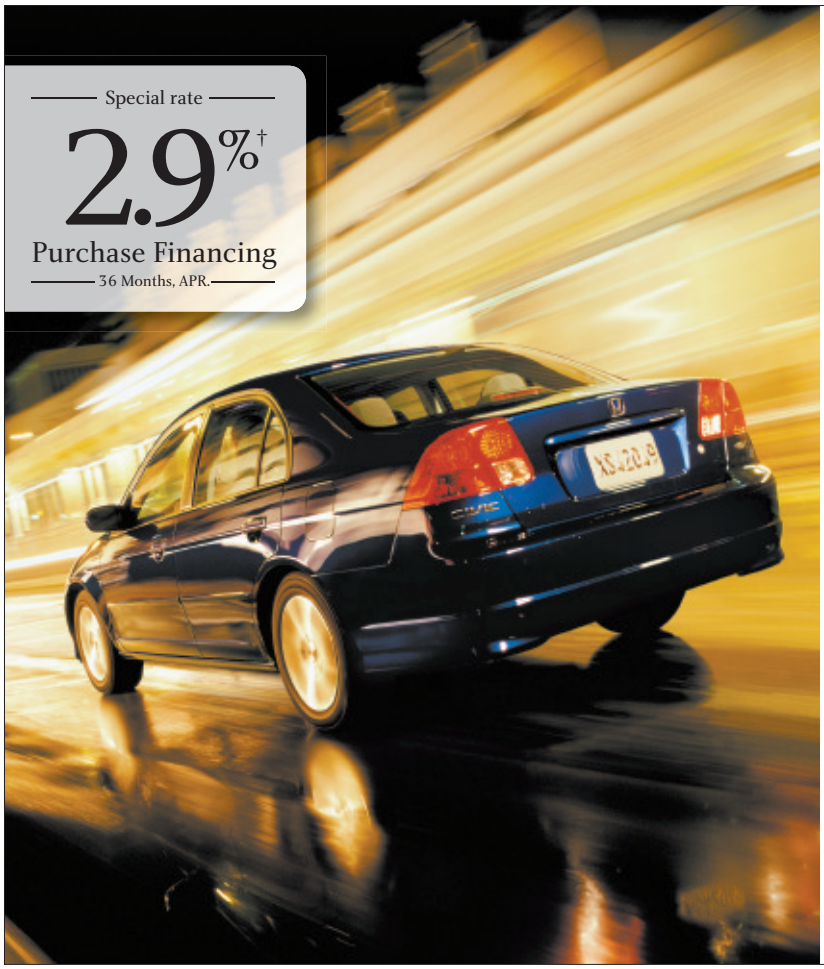
At launch, the 2011 Cruze will be offered in LS, LT Turbo and LTZ Turbo models, followed by a high-efficiency LT Eco model available in late 2010. The Cruze LS will have a starting price of $14,995 with the LT Turbo starting at $19,495 and the LTZ Turbo at $24,780.

Cruze has logged more than 6.5 million kilometres of customer durability testing across all major continents.

METRO



▶ The 1997-2001 Honda Prelude is a top choice among many hoping to get into the sports car segment.



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†Limited time financing offer on all Honda Certifed Used Civics available through Honda Financial Services, on approved credit. Offer only available up to 36 months on Honda Certified Used Honda Civics (2005–2009 model years). Finance example based on 2005 model: $10,000 at 2.9% per annum equals $290.37 per month for 36 months. Cost of borrowing is $453.42 for a total obligation of $10,453.42. Taxes, license, insurance, registration and fees are not included. See your Honda dealer for full details. Dealer may sell for less. Offer expires August 31, 2010.

PHOTO COURTESY HONDA

Honda's sporty Prelude to fun at wheel

Drive satisfaction and reliability go hand-in-hand with Japanese automaker's sports model ◗ Reputation behind relatively high prices

SECOND GEAR

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

Like so many of its competitors, the Honda Prelude gracefully bowed out of the sports car scene after 2001, having become a casualty of low sales volumes and increasing fuel and insurance costs.

Interestingly, even some years later, the last-generation of Honda's coupe still commands relatively high premiums in the used market as a reliable and relevant sports car.

The fifth and last generation of the Prelude hit the scene in 1997, and all models were two-door, four-seat front-drive units with four-cylinder power. Said power came from a 2.2 litre VTEC engine with 195 or 200 horsepower, depending on model year. A manual five-speed transmission was standard, and a four-speed automatic was available optionally, and featured manual-mode shifting.

Features included ABS disc brakes, air, a sunroof, leather seating, and a CD-changer audio system. Exceptional handling and braking were part of the package. Prelude mightn't be Honda's most practical used model — but many an owner say their machines deliver reliable driving enjoyment, day in and day out.

What Owners Like

Power, handling and driving dynamics were among the last-generation Prelude's most highly rated attributes according to owners. Reliability and fuel mileage are well-rated, too.

What Owners Hate

Prelude's most common gripes centre around limited interior and cargo space, squeaks and rattles over time, and a rough ride on some surfaces.

The Verdict

End of the day, a relatively stock example of a Prelude that's been well maintained and loved should give new owners few if any problems.

Common issues

Prelude doesn't seem to suffer from any glaring or systematic problems, though several checks are advised. The Prelude's H22 engine used a timing belt tensioner that could be a source of grief in the event of a malfunction that allows too much slack in the timing belt. This could cause skipped belt teeth and even potentially fatal engine damage.

Be absolutely sure to ascertain the engine's timing belt situation. This very important belt needs to be changed at a prescribed interval before failure in order to prevent catastrophic engine failure.

Checking the condition and level of all fluids is also advised, as is a full check of all interior accessories for proper operation.

The specs

- **MODEL** 1997 to 2001 Honda Prelude
- **VEHICLE TYPE** Coupe
- **APPROXIMATE USED PRICE RANGE** $5,500 to $10,000

vw.ca/pure

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2005 to 2009 Jetta with additional 2-year or 40,000 km limited warranty.

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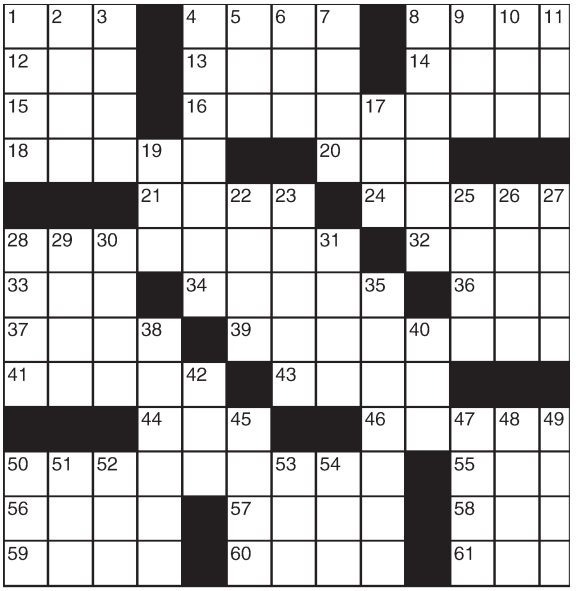
Das Auto.

Model shown with optional features. *Limited time financing offer available on approved credit through Volkswagen Finance. 0.9% APR financing pertains to finance terms up to 48 months only on 2005 to 2009 M.Y. certified pre-owned Jetta. Rates start at 2.9% for up to 60 months for other models. Financing example: $15,000 (including $5 OMVIC fee, up to $58 PPSA, and up to $499 dealer administrative charge) financed at 0.9% for 48 months, monthly payment is $318.28, cost of borrowing is $277.24 for a total obligation of $15,277.24. Or $15,000 financed at 2.9% for 60 months, monthly payment is $268.86, cost of borrowing is $1,131.86 for a total obligation of $16,131.86. Dealer may sell for less. Down payment may be required. License, insurance, registration, options and applicable taxes are extra. Offer ends September 30, 2010 and is subject to change or cancellation without notice. **Up to $500 rebate for recent college or university graduates. Certain conditions apply. †2-year/40,000 km (whichever comes first) limited warranty. See dealers for additional details about this warranty. ††2-year, 24-hour roadside assistance provided by Sykes Assistance Services Corporation. ‡IntelliChoice.com, October 2009 review of 32 manufacturer programs. See www.intellichoice.com for additional details, explanation of results and program updates. Based on U.S. Program analysis. Visit vw.ca or your Volkswagen dealer for details. "Volkswagen", the Volkswagen logo and "Jetta" are registered trademarks of Volkswagen AG. "Das Auto & Design" is a trademark of Volkswagen AG. "CarProof" is a registered trademark of 3823202 Canada Inc. o/a LienQuest.com. © 2010 Volkswagen Canada.

Crossword



Across

1 Plead
4 Milky gem
8 Vocal comeback
12 Water (Fr.)
13 Hill counterpart
14 Frog's cousin
15 Misstep
16 Give special emphasis to
18 Downright
20 Thither
21 Creche trio
24 Gunpowder ingredient
28 Ancestral place
32 Pop flavor
33 "The — Daba Honeymoon"
34 "— di Lammermoor"
36 Snitch
37 Lima's country
39 Cell's ancestor
41 Graceful young woman
43 Marquis de —
44 Constrictor type
46 Hindu prince
50 Solid hit
55 Have bills
56 Concept
57 "Piggies"
58 Simple card game
59 Bard
60 Seeks damages
61 Caustic solution

Down

1 Gridlock sound
2 Count counterpart
3 Ashram leader
4 Eccentric
5 Standard
6 "The Greatest"
7 Tax
8 Cultural, in a way
9 Bill and —
10 Scenery chewer
11 Praise from 59-Across
17 A billion years
19 Sra., across the Pyrenees
22 Old name for France
23 Pizarro's victims
25 Actress Spelling
26 Verve
27 Assessment
28 Chances
29 Do as I say
30 Crumbly clay deposit
31 Actress Merrill
35 Speech
38 Cheerful, as a tune
40 Meadow
42 Scuttle
45 Macrame and origami
47 Cheek by —
48 Vacationing
49 Present
50 Back talk
51 Altar affirmation
52 Born
53 Debtor's letters
54 Victory gesture

▶ Yesterday's answer

M	A	L	T	■	O	B	I	E	■	R	I	M
P	L	E	A	■	G	U	R	U	■	A	B	A
H	A	M	B	U	R	G	E	R	■	D	I	D
■	■	■	O	R	E	S	■	A	R	I	S	E
B	A	T	O	N	■	■	A	S	E	A	■	■
E	R	R	S	■	H	A	M	I	L	T	O	N
T	E	A	■	S	E	P	I	A	■	I	I	I
H	A	M	S	T	E	R	S	■	F	O	N	T
■	■	■	P	E	E	L	■	■	K	I	N	K	S
J	U	L	E	P	■	O	K	I	E	■	■	■
A	P	E	■	H	A	M	A	D	R	Y	A	D
N	O	R	■	E	D	E	N	■	C	O	R	A
E	N	S	■	N	O	N	E	■	E	M	M	Y

Sudoku

6	9						5	1
	3			6			7	
		7	5		8	2		
			4		1			
8								4
			2		9			
		1	3		7	9		
	5			1			3	
4	7						1	8

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

2	5	3	4	6	1	7	8	9
7	9	6	8	3	5	1	2	4
4	1	8	2	9	7	5	6	3
3	6	1	7	4	2	9	5	8
5	2	7	3	8	9	6	4	1
9	8	4	1	5	6	2	3	7
1	3	9	5	2	8	4	7	6
8	7	2	6	1	4	3	9	5
6	4	5	9	7	3	8	1	2

Send a KISS

Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

Dalice, You are going to be an amazing mom! I love you so much, and I will be here with you every step of the way! I got some suguar for you when you get home!
LOVE KEN

Maya, i had a guitar and a backpack. We shared a cigarette then I sang you and anne a song. Since that day, your enchanting eyes have troubled my mind true...how ever will I find you again?
MIKE

To my beautiful fiancé Sara, I love you more then anything and can't wait to marry you! Xoxo
Love, your future hubby
STEPHEN COLE

To my queen
Will you marry me
FROM YOUR KING

Today: Partly cloudy 30°/ 22°
Thursday: Rain 70% 28° / 18°
Friday: Partly cloudy 25°/ 15°

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 19 If you work with other people today you will achieve something special. If you work against them you won't get anywhere. It's that simple.

♉ Taurus April 20-May 21 Your destiny is not set in stone and anyone who tries to tell you that it is should not be considered a friend. Whatever it is you most dream of doing now is the best time to start it.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 Time is on your side and if you take your time you will achieve everything you set out to achieve, so don't rush things. .

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 You may be in the mood to take risks but today's Mars-Jupiter link warns there is more at stake than you seem to realize.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 You are allowed to have fun you know. You may have to push yourself to go out and do the things you enjoy today but once you start you won't want to stop. This is your time of year, so make the most of it.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 You may not be the type who gets carried away easily but something will spark your passion today and soon everyone will know what it is you are so enthusiastic about.reaktion där

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 If you are feeling a bit down throw yourself into an activity that requires your full attention. Before you know it you will have forgotten all about your worries.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 A quick decision is a must, but will it be the right decision? That remains to be seen, but with Mars opposing luck planet Jupiter even if you get it wrong it will somehow work out for the best in the end.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 You will go on the attack today and, almost certainly, you will win whatever battle it is you are engaged in. Be careful you don't go too far and destroy a friendship.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 You want to make a name for yourself and move up in the world and with Saturn moving through the career area of your chart you will undoubtedly get the chance.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 You won't lack for energy today – in fact you may have a bit too much for some people's tastes – but do you have common sense to go with it? If so there is no end to what you can, and will, accomplish.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 You will be extraordinarily impulsive today, so much so that some people will think you have lost your mind. Whatever the reason for your precipitate action, and whether or not it succeeds, at least others won't take you for granted again.
SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

THE ASSOCIATD PRESS

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image to the right and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

THE ASSOCIATD PRESS

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Notice of Completion of Environmental Project Report

Scarborough Rapid Transit Conversion and Extension City of Toronto and Toronto Transit Commission

The Project

The City of Toronto and the Toronto Transit Commission have completed an Environmental Project Report in accordance with Ontario Regulation 231/08 for the Scarborough Rapid Transit (SRT) Conversion and Extension Project.

The existing Scarborough RT line runs 6.5 kilometres from Kennedy Station to McCowan Road. Because the existing vehicles are reaching the end of their life expectancy, the right-of-way and stations must be modified to accommodate new LRT vehicles and to expand ridership capacity. The new LRT vehicles will be the same as those to be used on other Transit City Light Rail Transit (LRT) lines. At Kennedy Station, improvements will also include a more direct connection between the SRT and Bloor-Danforth Subway platforms. Plans will also accommodate the new Eglinton Crosstown and Scarborough-Malvern LRT lines.

The 4.9 kilometre extension of the Scarborough RT from McCowan Road to Malvern Town Centre will provide rapid transit to northeast Scarborough, including a direct connection to the Sheppard East LRT. The SRT will be elevated from McCowan Road to north of Highway 401, where it will transition to operate underground via a portal located west of Progress Avenue, south of Milner Avenue. A second portal will be located south of Tapscott Road, with an elevated terminal station at Malvern Town Centre. New bus terminals are planned at Sheppard Avenue and Malvern Town Centre.

SRT trains will access the Sheppard East Maintenance and Storage Facility (at Conlins Road) via underground tracks which will connect to the Sheppard East LRT and Sheppard East at surface via a portal located on Sheppard Avenue, east of Progress Avenue.

The Process

The environmental impact of this transit project was assessed and an Environmental Project Report prepared according to the transit project assessment process prescribed in Ontario Regulation 231/08, Transit Projects and Greater Toronto Transportation Authority Undertakings.

The Environmental Project Report for the SRT project will be made available for a 30-day review period beginning August 4, 2010 on the project website: www.toronto.ca/transitcity (Extension of the Scarborough Rapid Transit & Kennedy Station Improvements) and at the following locations:

City of Toronto
City Clerks Office Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West, 10th Floor
West Tower
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
416-392-8032

City of Toronto
City Clerks Office Scarborough Civic Centre
150 Borough Drive, 3rd Floor
Toronto, ON M1P 4N7
416-396-7088

Toronto Transit Commission
Transit City Department
5160 Yonge Street, 3rd Floor
Toronto, ON M2N 6L9
416-397-8872

Toronto Public Library
Kennedy/Eglinton Branch
Liberty Square Shopping Plaza
2380 Eglinton Avenue East
Toronto, ON, M1K 2P3

Toronto Public Library
McGregor Park Branch
2219 Lawrence Avenue East
Toronto, ON, M1P 2P5
416-396-8935

Toronto Public Library
Burrows Hall Branch
1081 Progress Avenue
Toronto, ON, M1B 5Z6
416-396-8740

Ministry of the Environment
Environmental Assessment & Approvals Branch
2 St. Clair Avenue West, Floor 12A,
Toronto, ON M4V 1L5
416-314-8001
1-800-461-6290

Ministry of the Environment
Central Region Office
5775 Yonge Street, 8th Floor
North York, ON M2M 4J1
416-326-6700

Toronto Public Library
Malvern Branch
30 Sewells Road
Toronto, ON, M1B 3G5
416-396-8969

There are circumstances where the Minister of the Environment has the authority to require further consideration of the transit project, or impose conditions on it. These include if the Minister is of the opinion that:

- The transit project may have a negative impact on a matter of provincial importance that relates to the natural environment or has cultural heritage value or interest; or,
- The transit project may have a negative impact on a constitutionally protected Aboriginal or treaty right.

Before exercising the authority referred to above, the Minster is required to consider any written objections to the transit project that he or she may receive within 30 days after the Notice of Completion of the Environmental Project Report is first published.

Interested persons are encouraged to review the project documents and provide comments by September 3, 2010. Comments and concerns may be directed to the project contacts listed below. If you have unresolved concerns, you have the right to submit an objection to this transit project to the Minister of the Environment no later than September 3, 2010 (135 St. Clair Avenue West, 12th Floor, Toronto, ON M4V 1P5, Fax: 416-314-7337, E-mail: Minister.moe@ontario.ca Attn: Minister of the Environment). Although not required, a copy of the objection is requested to be forwarded to the Director and project contacts listed below:

Stephanie Rice
Project Manager
Toronto Transit Commission
5160 Yonge Street, 3rd Floor
Toronto, ON M2N 6L9
srt@ttc.ca
Fax: 416-338-0251
TTY: 416-397-0831
Phone: 416-392-6900
Web:
www.toronto.ca/transitcity
(Extension of the Scarborough Rapid Transit & Kennedy Station Improvements)

Director
Environmental Assessment & Approvals Branch
Ministry of the Environment
2 St. Clair Avenue West,
Floor 12A
Toronto, ON M4V 1L5
Attn: Kevin Plautz,
Project Officer
Email: kevin.plautz@ontario.ca
Phone: 416-314-7184
or 1-800-461-6290
Fax: 416-314-8452

Under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and the Environmental Assessment Act, unless otherwise stated in the submission, any personal information such as name, address, telephone number and property location included in a submission will become part of the public record files for this matter and will be released, if requested, to any person.

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Issue Date: August 4, 2010

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Starting from

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MSRP

Offer Includes:
Delivery & Destination $1,650
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ONE OF THE GREENEST CARS IN ITS SEGMENT

RIO EX SHOWN

2010 KIA RIO

HWY: 5.8L/100KM (49 MPG) CITY: 7.1L/100KM (40 MPG) | BLUETOOTH CONNECTIVITY° | MP3/USB INPUT

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AND 0% FINANCE APR FOR UP TO 48 MOS**

CAR OF THE YEAR§

FORTE EX SHOWN

2010 KIA FORTE

HWY: 5.8L/100KM (49 MPG) CITY: 8.3L/100KM (34 MPG) | BLUETOOTH CONNECTIVITY° | STEERING WHEEL AUDIO CONTROLS

Sale Price From **$15,484†**

Purchase Price

Offer Includes:
Delivery & Destination $1,455
Fees $34

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AND 0% FINANCE APR FOR UP TO 60 MOS**

SOUL 4U SHOWN

2010 KIA SOUL

HWY: 6.3L/100KM (45 MPG) CITY: 7.7L/100KM (37 MPG) | BLUETOOTH CONNECTIVITY° | HEATED FRONT SEATS

Sale Price From **$17,779†**

Purchase Price

Offer Includes:
Delivery & Destination $1,650
Fees $134

AND 0% FINANCE APR FOR UP TO 48 MOS**

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Kia's new Customer Friendly Pricing includes Delivery and Destination fees and all mandatory government levies.
Prices do not include dealer administration fees ($399 - $699), licensing, PPSA, or applicable taxes.

5 Year Warranty — WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED.
*5-YEAR/100,000 KM WORRY-FREE COMPREHENSIVE WARRANTY
*5-YEAR/100,000 KM POWERTRAIN WARRANTY
*5-YEAR/100,000 KM EXTRA CARE ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE
*NO DEDUCTIBLE CHARGE

KIA MEMBER REWARDS

CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED°

KIA mobility PROGRAM

$500 Grad Rebate

*"No Payments Until Fall" (60 day payment deferral) applies to purchase financing offers on all new 2010 and 2011 Kia models. No interest will accrue during the first 30 days of the finance contract. After this period interest starts to accrue and the purchaser will repay principal and interest monthly over the term of the contract. †MSRP for 2011 Sportage (SP55IB) is $23,779. Delivery and Destination fees ($1,650), OMVIC fee, environmental fee and Air Tax (where applicable) included. ‡Purchase price for 2010 Rio (RO543A)/2010 Forte (FO540A)/2010 Soul (SO55PA) is $14,884/$15,484/$17,779 and includes a cash rebate of $2,500/$1,800/$800 based on the Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price of $17,384/$17,284/$18,579. Delivery and Destination fees of $1,455/$1,455/$1,650, OMVIC fee, environmental fee and Air Tax (where applicable) included. All offers exclude licensing, registration, insurance, PPSA, applicable taxes and variable dealer administration fees (up to $699). °Highway/city fuel consumption 2011 Sportage (SP55AB) is 6.9L (41 MPG) / 10.0L (28 MPG); 2010 Rio EX (RO542A) is 5.8L (49 MPG)/7.1L (40 MPG); 2010 Forte LX (FO540A) is 5.8L/(49 MPG)/8.3L (34 MPG); 2010 Soul 1.6L MT (SO550A) is 6.3L (45 MPG)/7.7L (37 MPG). The actual fuel consumption of these vehicles may vary. These estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the Government of Canada publication EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide. °Green Score for the 2010 Kia Rio based on specification within its segment. Refer to *GreenerCars.org* for full details. §The 2010 Kia Forte was awarded Car of the Year by *NADAguides.com*. To learn more please visit www.NADAguides.com. ^2010 Kia Soul awarded the Top Safety Pick by the *Insurance Institute for Highway Safety*. Visit www.iihs.org for full details. °The Bluetooth® word mark and logo are registered trademarks and are owned by Bluetooth SIG, Inc. Some vehicles advertised may include optional accessories or after-sale equipment and may not be exactly as shown. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of print. Offer ends August 31st, 2010. KIA is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.

CANADA'S hottest model event

IF YOU WANT A HOT MODEL, IT'S TIME TO STEP UP.

2010 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT shown.[1]

2010 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN CANADA VALUE PACKAGE

CANADA'S BEST SELLING MINIVAN

PURCHASE FOR

$19,999*

INCLUDES $8,000 CONSUMER CASH*, FREIGHT, AIR TAX, TIRE LEVY AND OMVIC FEE. TAXES EXCLUDED. OTHER RETAILER CHARGES MAY APPLY.^

- 3.3L Flex Fuel V6 engine with automatic transmission
- 4-wheel disc brakes with ABS
- Electronic Stability Program (ESP™) with all-speed traction control
- Advanced multistage front air bags & side-curtain air bags
- Power front windows and locks

STEP UP FOR ONLY $8‡ MORE BI-WEEKLY

2010 GRAND CARAVAN SE WITH STOW 'N GO®

Second row power windows and quarter vented windows

17" Aluminum wheels

- Leather wrapped steering wheel and shift knob
- Steering wheel mounted audio controls

NO CHARGE SE PLUS GROUP PACKAGE

2010 Dodge Journey SXT shown.[1]

2010 DODGE JOURNEY SE CANADA VALUE PACKAGE

CANADA'S #1 SELLING CROSSOVER^

PURCHASE FOR

$19,999*

INCLUDES $1,250 CONSUMER CASH*, FREIGHT, AIR TAX, TIRE LEVY AND OMVIC FEE. TAXES EXCLUDED. OTHER RETAILER CHARGES MAY APPLY.^

PLUS GET **0%†** PURCHASE FINANCING for 36 months

OR CHOOSE

$121 BI-WEEKLY @ A VARIABLE PRIME RATE OF **2.75%±** FOR 84 MONTHS

STEP UP FOR ONLY $24‡ MORE BI-WEEKLY

2010 JOURNEY SXT GROUP PACKAGE

Third row 50/50 split fold reclining seats

Rear temperature control

- Second row 40/60 Tilt'n Slide™ seat – easy entry system

NO CHARGE FLEXIBLE SEATING GROUP

2010 Jeep Patriot Limited 4x4 shown.

2010 JEEP PATRIOT

$3,000 CONSUMER CASH DISCOUNTS*

PLUS GET **0%†** PURCHASE FINANCING for 36 months

CASH DISCOUNTS OF UP TO $8,000

+Your local retailer may charge additional fees for administration/pre-delivery that can range from $0 to $1,098 and anti-theft/safety products that can range from $0 to $1,298. Charges may vary by retailer.

CHRYSLER Jeep DODGE RAM

VISIT YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD CHRYSLER, JEEP®, DODGE, RAM RETAILER.

Dodge.ca/Offers

DODGE CARAVAN KIDS

SIRIUS SATELLITE RADIO

Wise customers read the fine print: •, ^, †, ‡, § Canada's Hottest Model Event offers apply to retail deliveries of selected new and unused models purchased between July 21, 2010 and August 3, 2010 from participating retailers. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Offers subject to change and may be extended without notice. See participating retailer for complete details and conditions. • $19,999 Purchase Price applies to 2010 Dodge Grand Caravan Canada Value Package (24P) only and includes $8,000 Consumer Cash Discount. $19,999 Purchase Price applies to 2010 Dodge Journey SE Canada Value Package (22F) only and includes $1,250 Consumer Cash Discount. See participating retailer for complete details. Pricing includes freight ($1,400), air tax, tire levy and OMVIC fee. Pricing excludes licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailers may sell for less. ^Consumer Cash Discounts are available on select 2010 models and vary by model. Visit your retailer for complete details. Based on manufacturer's suggested retail prices. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailers may sell for less. †0% for 36 months equals monthly payments of $555.52 per $1,000 of borrowing or $20 per month per $1,000 of borrowing. Based on 2010 Dodge Grand Caravan Canada Value Package and Cargo Van, Summer and Ram Chassis Cab. Example: 2010 Dodge Journey SE Canada Value Package (22F) with a Purchase Price of $19,999 financed at 0% for 36 months equals monthly payments of $555.52; cost of borrowing of $0 and a total obligation of $19,999. Pricing includes freight ($1,400), air tax, tire levy and OMVIC fee. Pricing excludes licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailers may sell for less. ‡Additional $8 bi-weekly payment based on financing a 2010 Dodge Grand Caravan SE with Stow 'N Go® at 2.75% Variable Prime Rate over 84 months on approved credit through TD Financing Services or Royal Bank of Canada compared to financing a 2010 Grand Caravan Canada Value Package at an average standard bank rate over 84 months. ±Variable Prime Rate financing up to 84 months is offered on approved credit on most new 2010 vehicles to qualified retail customers through TD Financing Services and Royal Bank of Canada. Bi-weekly payments shown are based on 84 month terms. Variable rate shown is based on TD and RBC Prime Rate and fluctuates accordingly. Payments and financing term may increase or decrease with rate fluctuations. RBC offer not open to residents of Quebec. TD offer is not open to residents of New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Yukon, Nunavut and Northwest Territories. Some conditions apply. See participating retailer for complete details. §2010 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT (2D) Dodge Journey SXT shown have a higher price than the 2010 Dodge Grand Caravan Canada Value Package advertised. See your retailer or go to www.dodge.ca for complete details. ~Based on January through December 2009 R.L. Polk sales data registrations. ®SIRIUS and the dog logo are registered trademarks of SIRIUS Satellite Radio Inc. ©Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC

CANADA'S
hottest long weekend
of the year just got longer.
YOU BET.
THE HOTTEST LONG WEEKEND
OF THE YEAR HAS BEEN
HELD OVER
AUGUST 4 TO AUGUST 7
CHRYSLER
Jeep
DODGE
RAM
VISIT YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD CHRYSLER, JEEP®, DODGE, RAM RETAILER.
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